Izumi Tsubaki

MONTHLY GIRLS' NOZAKI-KUN

7

REVENGE MATCH

DON'T PLAY ON THE BOYS' TEAM!

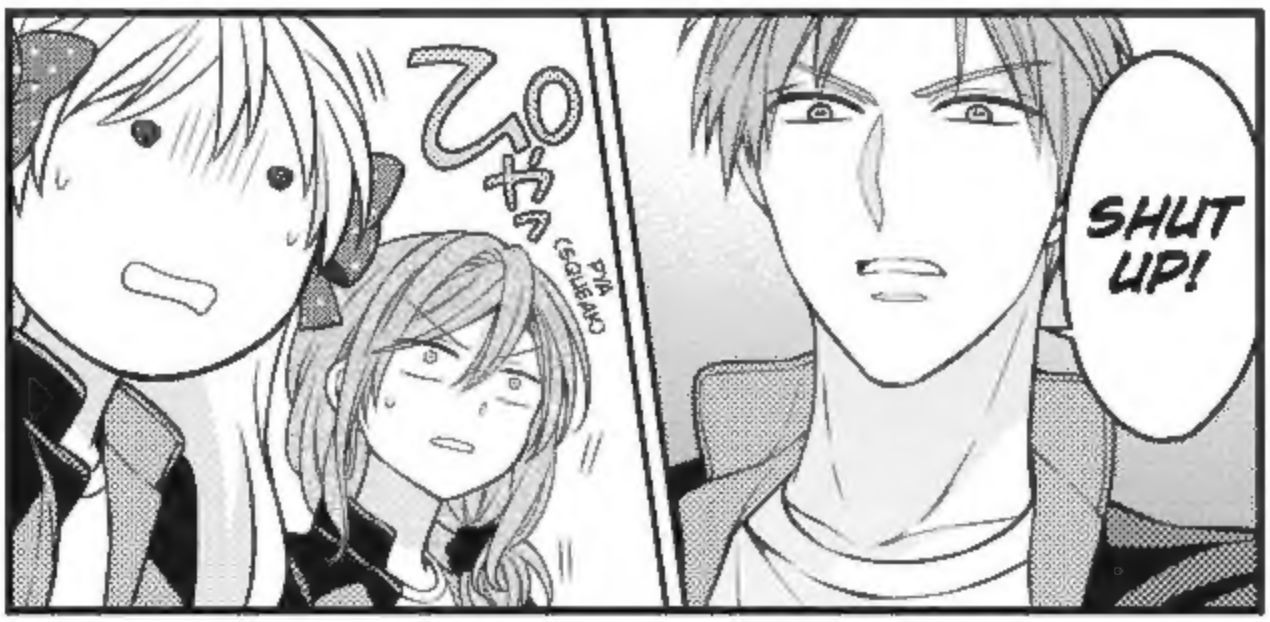
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THIS SHOULDN'T BE HAPPENING AT ALL, BUT HERE WE ARE AGAIN THIS YEAR...
3-C
YEAH...
2-G
SENPAI... WE'RE FACING OFF AGAIN THIS YEAR, HUH...?

YOU'RE A PAIN IN THE BUTT.

1-D
GOOD LUCK WITH VOLLEY-BALL TOO!
OH! I'LL DO MY BEST!
YEAH!
WAKA-MATSU-KUN, GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR BASKET-BALL GAME ...!

SEN-PA! ...!?
YIPES!
THAT'S A LITTLE EMBAR-RASSING!!!
YOU'RE RIGHT!! IT FEELS KINDA FRESH!
HUH, YU-ZUKI !?
CASUAL TALK!!! WAKA'S TALKING ALL CASUAL !!!
Y'HEAR THAT, CHIYO!?

...JUST BE QUIET !!!
PLEASE ...
GIMME CASUAL! LET'S HEAR IT!
AWW, C'MON!
INFOR-MAL!! INFOR-MAL!!
I CAN'T DO THAT !!!
HUH !?
HEY! HEEEEY! SAY SOME-THING ALL LAID-BACK TO US! C'MON!


つん
PYA (SQUEAK)
SHUT UP!

7

Izumi Tsubaki

MONTHLY GIRLS' NOZAKI-KUN

MONTHLY GIRLS' NOZAKI-KUN 7

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[ISSUE 61]

HEY, SAKURA?
YOU EVER HAVE SOMETHING HAPPEN SO NATURALLY THAT YOU DON'T EVEN NOTICE IT?
...
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WELL ...
...IT'S LIKE...

...YOU'RE JUST TOO CLOSE...
...SO YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN BE ABLE TO SEE IT.
DOKI (BADUM)
!!!
NO WAY ...!!?
DID HE FIGURE OUT HOW I FEEL ...!?

SAKURA...
DON'T BE TOO SHOCKED, OKAY?
O—
OKAY ...!!
THE TRUTH IS...
DO
DO (THUD)

...KIKUCHI-KUN'S CELL PHONE ...
...WENT FROM A FLIP PHONE TO A SMARTPHONE ...!!!
IT'S SO UNREMARKABLE THAT IT'S ACTUALLY SHOCKING !!!
KIKUCHI-KUN!?
TOO BAD ABOUT THAT, MINA.
IT CHANGED!!

A SERIOUS SITUATION

WHERE!? WHERE IN THE WORLD DID HE SWITCH PHONES!?
BA (FWIP)
BA
BA
BA
I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE HAD A FLIP PHONE!!!
I DON'T THINK IT'S SOMETHING TO GET THAT WORKED UP OVER...

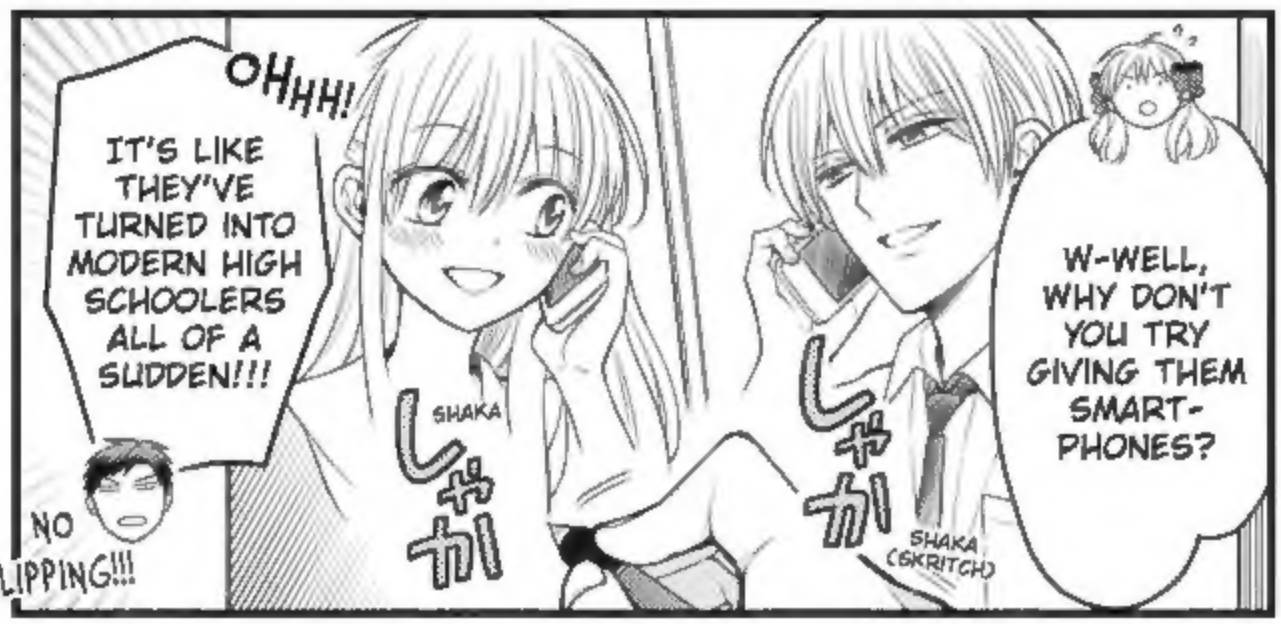
NO... THE LONGER THE SERIES, THE MORE SERIOUS THE PROBLEM OF CELL PHONES BECOMES.
TAKE, FOR EXAM-PLE...
...THIS SERIES THAT'S BEEN RUNNING FOR TWENTY YEARS...
I've Always Had a Crush on You

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU...!!
HIROSHI-KUN...!
I HAVE TO FIND A PAY PHONE ...!
Love U
IT'S FROM HIKARU-KUN.
OH ...!
I'LL MAKE SENPAI LOOK MY WAY!
FROM THIS DAY ON, I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL ...

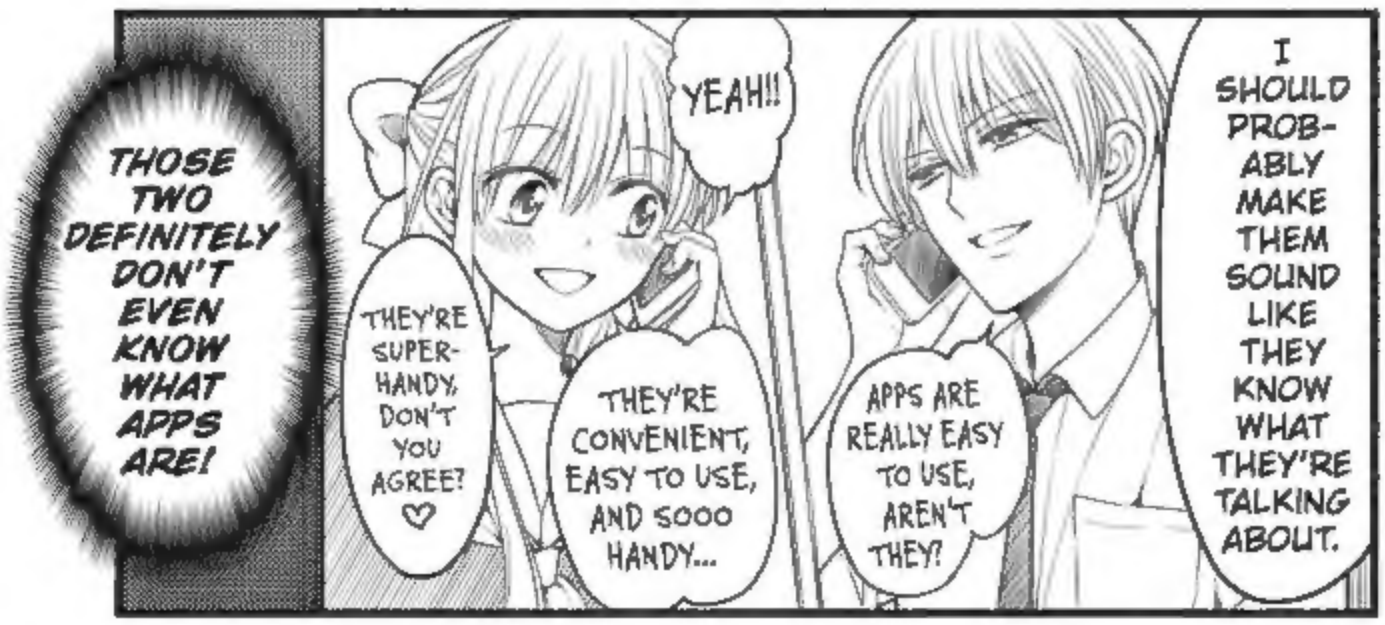
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SENPAI!?
HOLD IT!!! WHO CARES ABOUT THE PHONES!? HOW MANY LOVE INTERESTS HAVE THERE BEEN IN A SINGLE YEAR!!?
RYOUTA
Starting tomorrow, we're going to be second-years, aren't we?
RYOUTA-KUN... ♡
I HOPE WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS. ♡

JOINT KNOWLEDGE

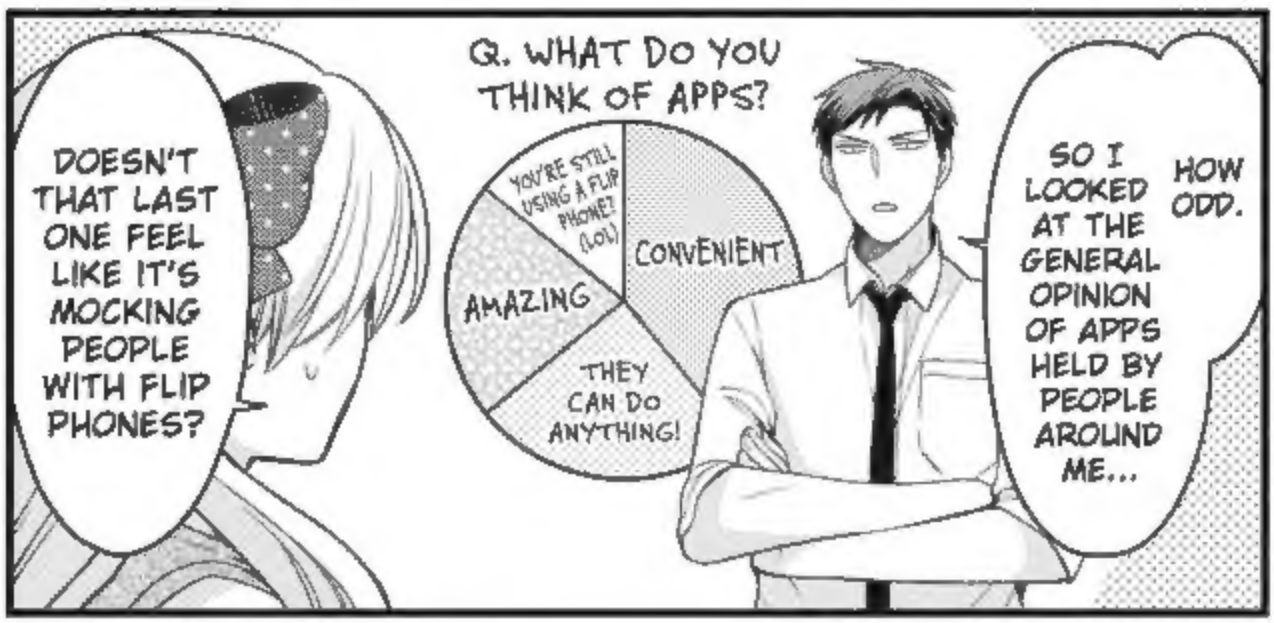
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME OF ALL PEOPLE ...!?
FLIP PHONE
AND SO, I'M THINKING OF HAVING SUZUKI AND MAMIKO GET SMART-PHONES. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
FLIP PHONE

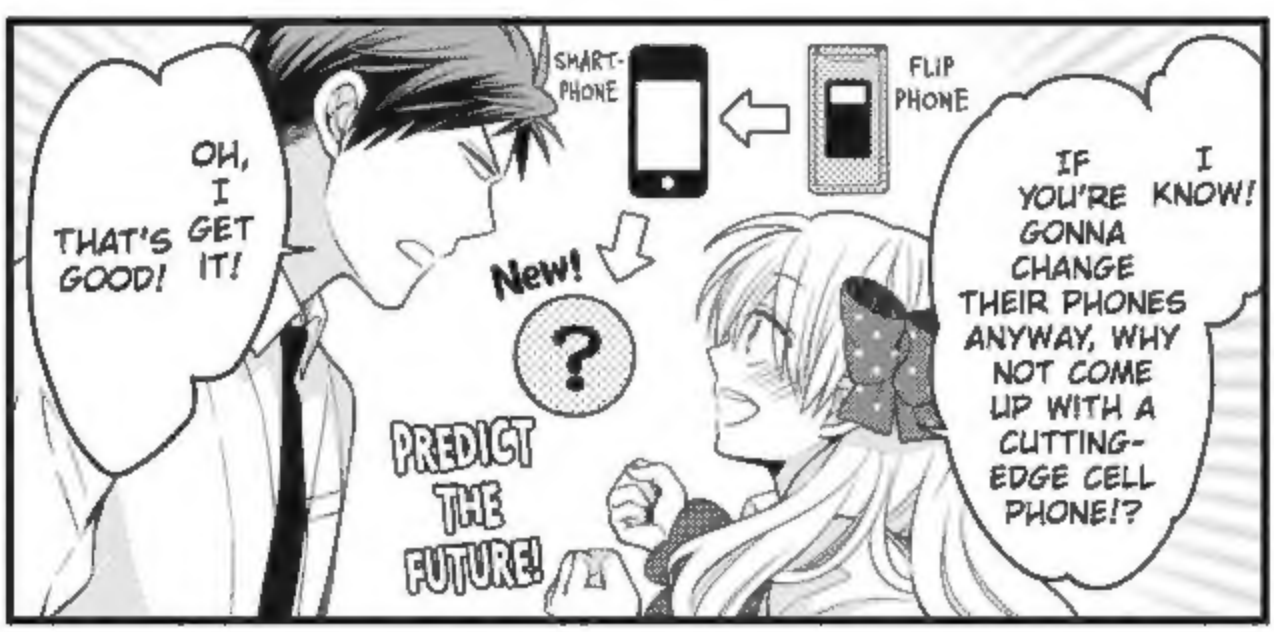


ME TOO!
I'M USING ALL SORTS OF APPS!
...THE TRUTH IS...I'M USING APPS.
MAMI-KO...
APPS!!
I'VE HEARD OF THOSE TOO!!!
AND THEN... I'M PRETTY SURE... DON'T THEY HAVE "APPS" OR SOME-THING?


THOSE TWO DEFINITELY DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT APPS ARE!
YEAH!!
THEY'RE SUPER-HANDY, DON'T YOU AGREE? ♡
THEY'RE CONVENIENT, EASY TO USE, AND SOOO HANDY...
APPS ARE REALLY EASY TO USE, AREN'T THEY?
I SHOULD PROB-ABLY MAKE THEM SOUND LIKE THEY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT.

IDEAL FEATURES


Q. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF APPS?
YOU'RE STILL USING A FLIP PHONE? (LOL)
CONVENIENT
AMAZING
THEY CAN DO ANYTHING!
DOESN'T THAT LAST ONE FEEL LIKE IT'S MOCKING PEOPLE WITH FLIP PHONES?
SO I LOOKED AT THE GENERAL OPINION OF APPS HELD BY PEOPLE AROUND ME...
HOW ODD.



OKAY!!! HOW ABOUT THIS!?
LET'S GO ASK SOMEONE WHO'S ON TOP OF THE LATEST TECH!!!
IN THE END, THIS IS JUST A FLIP PHONE!!!
IT'S HOPE-LESS!!! WE'RE NOT GETTING ANYWHERE WITH JUST THE TWO OF US!!!

DOES THAT MEAN YOU'VE DECIDED TO BITE THE BULLET AND GET ONE?
OH?
HUH?
YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU ABOUT SMART-PHONES?

CAN'T YOU... ...JUST USE A COM-PUTER?
.....
... AND ...
...YOU CAN SURF THE WEB ON A BIG SCREEN!
CAN'T YOU... ...JUST TEXT?
OKAY, LISTEN UP. THIS IS LINE. YOU USE IT TO CHAT BACK AND FORTH, KINDA LIKE TEXTING...

THAT'S AMAZ-ING!
!!!
IT TAKES REALLY GREAT PHOTOS.

WE DON'T REALLY HAVE A GRASP OF WHAT "CUTTING EDGE" IS YET, DO WE...?
YEAH.
PAKA PAKA
...CAN JUST KEEP FLIPPING FOREVER!!!
PAKA (FLIP)
PAKA
YOU TWO...
MIKO-RIN...
...DISAP-PEARED HALFWAY THROUGH ...

NOZAKI-KUN...
...YOU SHOULD REVISIT THE PAST. DON'T YOU AGREE ...?
IT OCCURS TO ME THAT, WHEN YOU'RE MAKING SOME-THING NEW...
BUT, SAKU-RA...
...I'VE BEEN THINK-ING.

WAY TO GO, NOZAKI-KUN!!!
...WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING FROM OLD CELL PHONES ...!
SO BASI-CALLY ...
I GET IT...
REVISIT-ING THE PAST...

YOU'RE GOING BACK THAT FAR!!?
...THIS CUP'S FOR YOU.
AND SO...

IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS

THEY TRIED IT.

OKAY, WE CAN HEAR EACH OTHER.

NOW LET'S TRY GETTING A LITTLE FARTHER AWAY.

WHAAAT!!?

WELL, Y'KNOW... IT FEELS MORE LIKE A PHONE CALL IF WE CAN'T SEE EACH OTHER'S FACES.

DO IT OFF BY MYSELF!?

THAT'S EMBARRASSING!! IT'S EMBARRASSING, BUT ...!!

WAAAAAH!

IT'S A CHANCE TO HEAR NOZAKI-KUN'S VOICE RIGHT IN MY EAR!

I JUST CAN'T LET THE OPPORTUNITY PASS ME BY!!!

GASA (RUSTLE)

It's me.

NOZAKI-KUN!!?

!

HELLO, I'M A LAWYER.

AHH, THIS HAS GOTTEN QUITE COMPLICATED, YOU KNOW.

IT'S OKAY! I'LL MAKE IT ALL WORK OUT SOMEHOW.

YEAH, YEAH! IT'S ME. ME, NOZAKI!

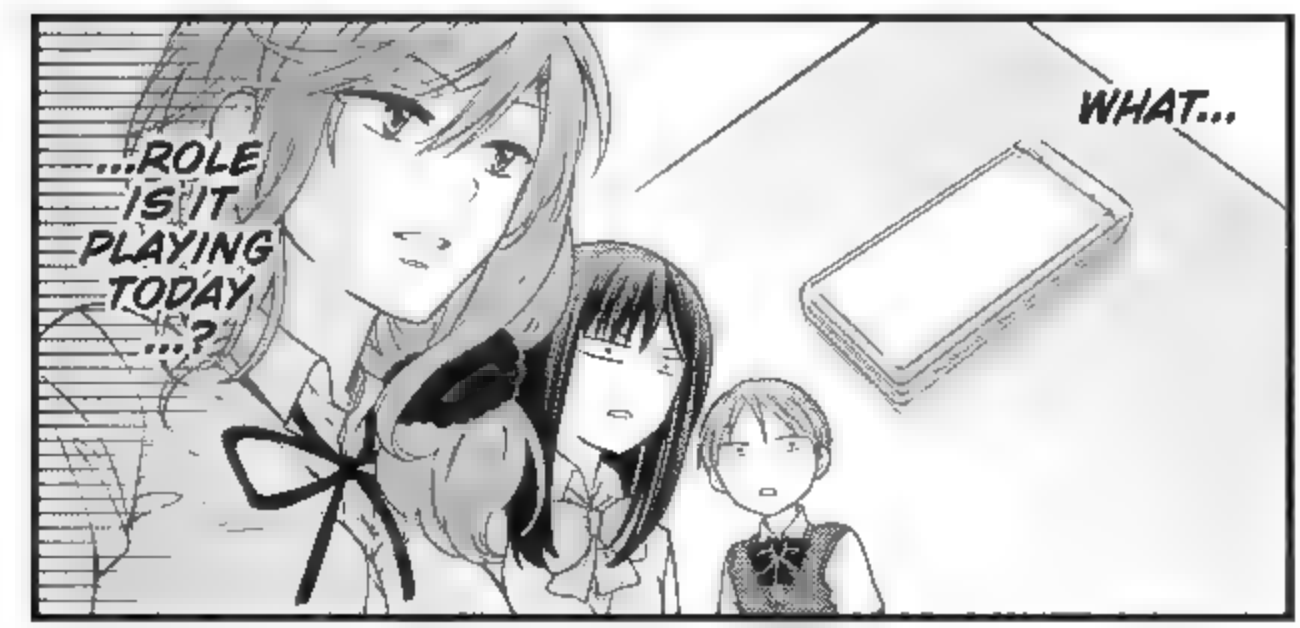
ACTUALLY, I WAS IN AN ACCIDENT...

IT'S A CON!

Anyway ...

...I'll need you to transfer cash to my bank account at once ...

AN INTERMEDIARY



CHIYO VERSUS THE PAPER CUP

...AND I'LL TAKE THIS PAPER CUP.

WOW ...

NOZAKI-KUN IS ON THE OTHER END OF THIS STRING.

CHIRA ちらっ

CHIRA ちらっ

CHIRA ちらっ

CHIRA ちらっ

CHIRA (GLANCE) ちらっ

...SO ...

...EVEN THOUGH I HID IT AWAY, I JUST COULDN'T HELP BUT GO LOOK AT IT.

MAYBE THIS IS WHAT BEING ADDICTED TO YOUR CELL PHONE'S LIKE?

JUST KIDDING!

SO WHAT'S THAT FOR ...!?

BA (WHIP)

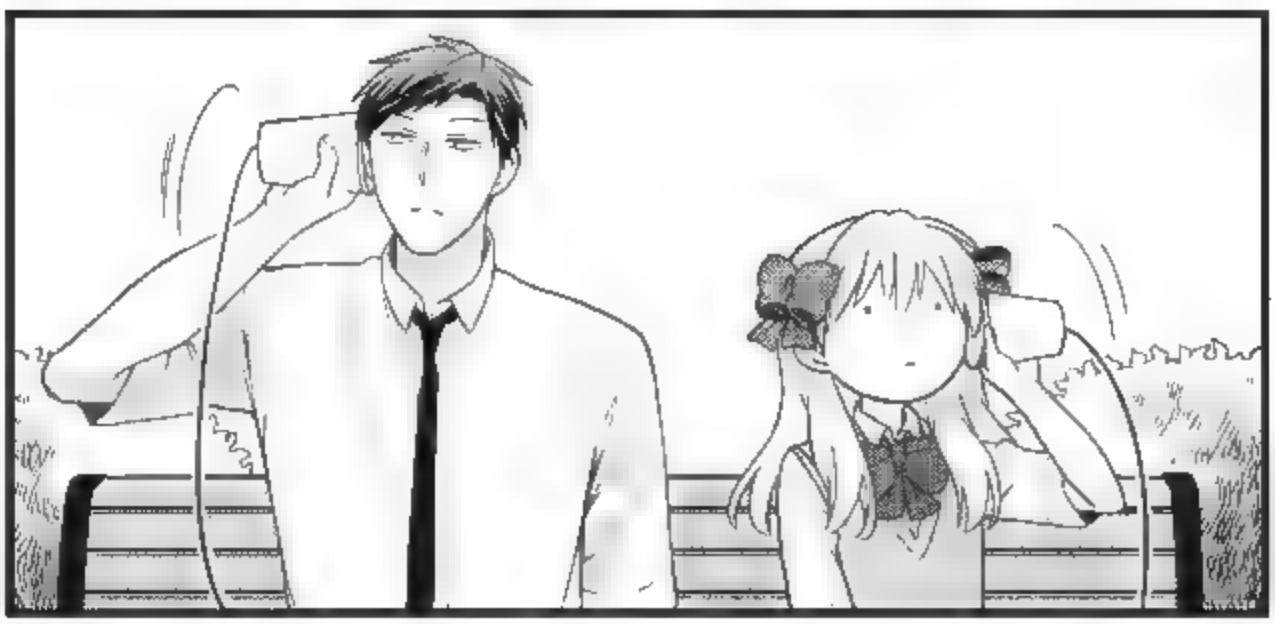
OHHH?
LET'S SAY SOMETHING TO HER!
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE CONNECTED TO A GIRL IN CLASS A.
A PAPER CUP?
HEY.
WHAT'S NOZAKI BEEN DOING WITH THIS ALL DAY?

Huh !?
For real !?
WHAT!? REALLY? I LIKE THEM TOO!!
My favorite band isn't very popular, but it's OO!
Hello, En-dou here ...!

HUH?
...USING THAT.
YOU KNOW, A NEW COUPLE JUST GOT TOGETHER A LITTLE WHILE AGO...

SO, DID YOU COME UP WITH ANY IDEAS FOR A NEW PHONE AFTER ALL THIS?
NAH... BUT I DID LEARN ONE THING FROM MY EXPERI-ENCES TODAY.

OH? AND WHAT'S THAT?
WELL, WITH STRING PHONES ...



GETTING THE TIMING DOWN WAS SERIOUSLY TOUGH...
...AND A PLACE TO LISTEN...
...YOU REALLY DO NEED BOTH A PLACE TO TALK...

WHEN YOU REALLY THINK ABOUT IT...
YEAH!
SO...
...BOTH YOU TWO AND THESE GUYS ARE STILL ON OLD FLIP PHONES, HUH...?
NOTHING'S CHANGED AT ALL!

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?
CELL PHONES ARE BRILLIANT!
...JUST BEING ABLE TO TALK AT ALL IS THE MOST AMAZING THING...

THERE AREN'T ANY ISSUES WITH THE STORY ITSELF, BUT...
I'VE TAKEN A LOOK AT YOUR DRAFT.
OH, YUMENO-SAN?

...THE WAY THEY'RE HOLDING THEIR PHONES THIS TIME IS A LITTLE WEIRD?
... DON'T YOU THINK ...
NO!!!
...JUST DON'T KNOW YOU ANY-MORE, SUZUKI-KUN!!
MAMI-KO!! LIS-TEN TO ME!!

REALITY VS. PANEL LAYOUT

I'LL TRY DRAWING IT!!
OH!
STILL, A DECLARATION OF LOVE OVER A STRING TELEPHONE WOULD BE PRETTY WONDERFUL...
HUH!?
LOVE YOU!
ALL DONE!!
THEY SEEM KINDA... DISTANT ...!!!
SUZUK
RIVAL
NO WAY!
WON'T LET YOU HAVE SUZUKI-KUN!!!
MAMIKO
LET'S GO... ON A DATE SOME-TIME
WOW, NOZAKI-KUN'S SERIOUS ABOUT BEING REALISTIC WITH THIS STUFF...
HRRRM ...
SHOULD I MAKE IT ELASTIC?
BUT IF I DO THAT, THE PANEL WILL...
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
BUT WITH THE LENGTH OF THE STRING, THEY WON'T FIT IN THE SAME PANEL IF I DON'T DO THIS ...
AND THERE GOES ALL HIS SERIOUSNESS RIGHT OUT THE WINDOW!
I'LL JUST DO THIS!

IT WAS TOUGH THIS TIME.

[ISSUE 62]

WAKA-MATSU ...
...CAN YOU COME WORK ON TONE TOMOR-ROW?
OKAY. I CAN DO THAT.
OH.

IS OZE-KUN IN THE STORY THIS TIME?
OZE-KUN
HUH?
WHY?
WELL ...
...WHEN HE'S AROUND, I HAVE TO BE AT THE TOP OF MY GAME...

DO IIIIT!
HUH ...!? BE AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME ...!?
HE'S MODELED AFTER SEO...
DON'T TELL ME WAKAMATSU... ACTUALLY LIKES OZE ...!!?

I MEAN, HIS WHOLE HEAD'S COVERED IN TONE!!
I'LL DO MY BEST!!!
SORRY ABOUT THAT...
SO MANY PROBLEMS, BOTH HERE AND THERE...

AHHH.
I'VE DONE THIS SO MANY TIMES ...
...THAT I'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT...
...BUT I STILL KIND OF PREPARE FOR BATTLE...
...WHEN I SEE OZE-KUN...

OH! IT'S OZE-KUN!
AND THERE'S OZE-KUN TOO!
THERE ARE... ...EIGHT OF HIM ON THIS PAGE!
THAT'S ROUGH!!

I DID THE TONE ON THIS OZE-KUN FOR YOU!
WAKA-MATSU!
HE MUST JUST BE INSTINCTIVELY REJECTING HIM...

WHY DOES HE LOOK SO SAD !!?
OH...
HUH ...?

OHH...?
THAT'S NOT REALLY SOMETHING I GET TO FEEL DOING BACK-GROUNDS.
I MEAN, IT'S MY THING...
SORRY... I'VE BEEN DOING THE TONE ALL THIS TIME, SO...
...I GOT A LITTLE ATTACHED ...
YOU THINK?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY DRAWING SOME FOR ME?
LIKE THE SCHOOL BUILDING OR THE HALLS...
HEH HEH HEH...
...IF SOMEONE ELSE DREW YOUR BACK-GROUNDS, YOU'D GET SAD TOO, SENPAI.
YOU SAY THAT, BUT MAYBE ...
DON'T BRAG ABOUT IT!!!
I COULDN'T POSSI-BLY!!!
ERASE THAT RIGHT NOW!!!
LOOK! I TRIED DOING IT!!!

WELL, IT'S KINDA OVER MY HEAD, BUT I GUESS THE MORE EFFORT YOU PUT IN, THE MORE YOU GET INTO IT?

YEAH, GUESS SO...

ON THE WHOLE, IT'S PRETTY ROUGH, SO I TRY TO BE CAREFUL ...

...AND THERE ARE TIMES THAT I WISH HE WAS BALD...

...BUT I'M HAPPY WHEN I GET THE TONE ON RIGHT...

YOU KNOW WHAT !?

TO ME, HE'S SORT OF LIKE KASHIMA-SENPAI IS TO YOU!

KASHIMA-SE?

I DON'T EVER WISH SHE WAS BALD THOUGH!

DON'T MAKE THEM OUT TO BE THE-SAME!

HERE!

TRY PUTTING SOME HAIR ON THIS KASHIMA I DREW FOR YOU.

MAYBE YOU'LL GET IT IF YOU ACTUALLY ATTEMPT IT YOURSELF?

SUPOOON (PLOP)

スポ

SHE'S BALD!!!

POWERFUL GRIP

WHAA —!?
HUH!!?
BUT I PUT TONE ON THEM...!!
WELL, IT'S NOT AS BAD AS MY ATTEMPT, BUT STILL...
OZE'S BANGS ARE ALL CUT UP.
YOU'RE GUILTY OF IT TOO, YOU KNOW ...

OHHH!!
I GET IT!
LIKE THIS.
SCOTCH TAPE
OH.
HAIR ENDS ARE EASY TO MESS UP, SO IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO PROTECT THEM WITH TAPE.

HUNH?
...HE REALLY DOES RESEMBLE HER...
IN THAT WAY...
SO...
...UNLIKE SUZUKI, OZE IS...
...A MAJOR PAIN IN THE BUTT WHO TAKES UP A LOT OF YOUR TIME...?

IGNORANCE REALLY IS BLISS ...
AH HA HA HA HA!
AWW, OZE-KUN!
IT'S LIKE HE'S THE SENSITIVE TYPE! YOU CAN HURT HIM WITHOUT KNOWING IT!

OZE IN ONE WORD

Get a second bottle if you're lucky!!

PI (BEEP)

ヒロ

OH.

GAKON (KATHUNK)

ガコン

I FEEL LIKE I'VE HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE SOME-WHERE...

OZE, HUH ...?

OH.

SEO.

HUH?

YOU REALLY OUGHTA BE MORE RESPECTFUL, Y'KNOW

.....

PIKO (BOOP)

ピコ

ピコ

ピコ

PIKO

PIKO

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE THE TRIP!

YO!

HORI-CHAN-SENPAI!

瀬尾 SEO

NO WAY ...!!!

尾瀬 OZE

ピコ!

PIKOOON (CHIMING)

ピコ

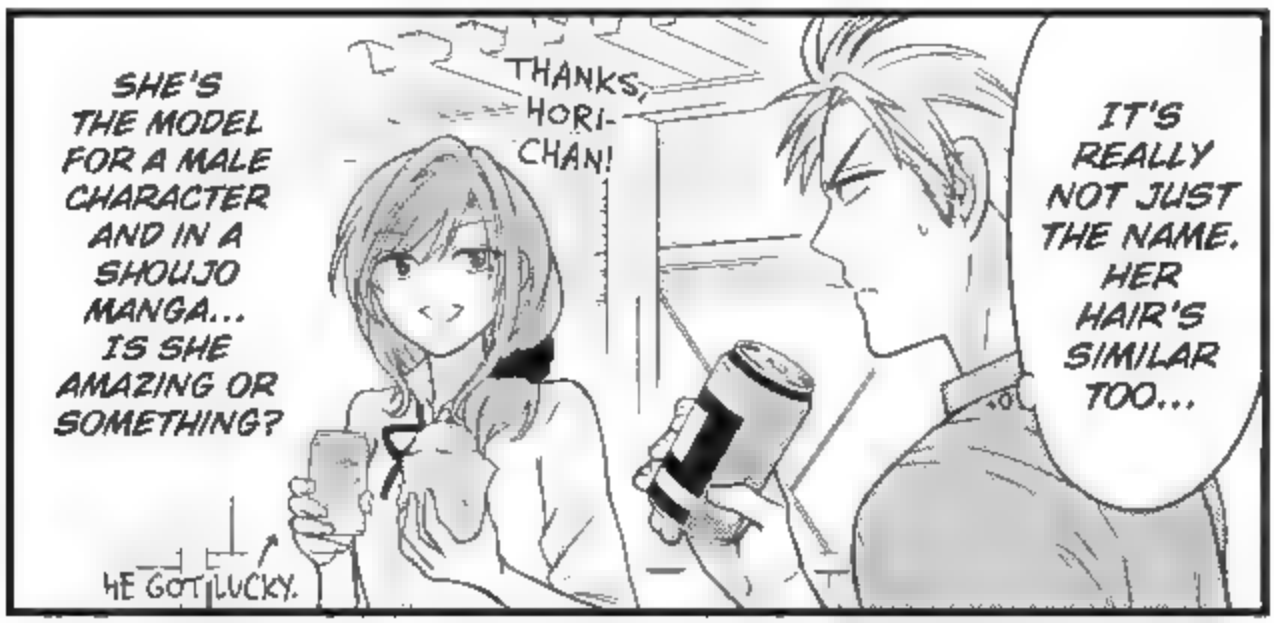
WHAT'S WITH MY HAIR, NOW?

...UH...

THAT'S THE HAIR!!?

YOU'RE WAKA-MATSU'S ...

YOU ...!


SHE'S THE MODEL FOR A MALE CHARACTER AND IN A SHOUJO MANGA... IS SHE AMAZING OR SOMETHING?
THANKS, HORI-CHAN!
IT'S REALLY NOT JUST THE NAME. HER HAIR'S SIMILAR TOO...
HE GOT LUCKY.

"GUYS WHO PLAY SPORTS ARE SO COOL...! ♡"
OHHH!
HEEEEY, SEO! LET'S PLAY BASE-BALL!

"HE'S ALWAYS SO CHILDISH! ♡"
I'M BORED, SO I'M GOING NOW.
WHOOO!
...I'M JUST GONNA RUSH IN ANYWAY !!!
—I WAS THINKING I'D TAKE T SLOW, BUT .
"HIS WILD SIDE IS JUST THE BEST! ♡"
HEH!
FOR REAL!?
I CAME UP WITH A PLAN TODAY, YOU KNOW.
"SMART GUYS ARE SO COOL! ♡"

NO, IT'S NOT.
THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO TELL ME ABOUT SEO, ISN'T IT, NOZAKI ...!!?
I GET IT... SHE'S A GIRL WHO SHARES LOTS OF TRAITS WITH THE POPULAR GUY IN A SHOUJO MANGA...

...THERE WAS A GIRL WHO COULD HOOK UP WITH OZE IN THE END...

I'M PRETTY SURE...

?

HUH...? THEN WHO'S HIS LOVE INTEREST ...?

WAKAMATSU

!!?

KA (FLASH)

Waka

BOOK: LET'S FALL—

AFTER SCHOOL

WE'RE GETTING FOOD!

...YOU GOT DRAGGED INTO THIS, SENPAI...

SORRY ...

YOU SHOULD COME WITH US SOMETIMES TOO, HORI-CHAN!

HUH?

YOU LIKE THAT FORCEFUL SIDE OF HER, DON'T YOU?

PON (PAT)

BUT I HAVEN'T HAD ANY YET...!!!

GABU (CHOMP)

AUGH!

LEMME TASTE YOURS, WAKA!

THAT WOULD BE...

...AN INDIRECT KISS!!!

GEEZ!

I TOLD YOU I DON'T LIKE PASSING FOOD AROUND !!!

PLEASE STOP!!

HERE!

YOU CAN HAVE SOME OF MINE!

IT'S A TRADE!

WHAT!?

YOU CAN SAY NO, YOU KNOW !!!?

SEN-PAI!

ACK!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT !!?

WHAT FLAVOR WAS IT AGAIN?

LEMME GET A TASTE OF YOURS TOO, HORI-CHAN!

.....

UH...

ABOUT YOUR OWN ICE CREAM!!?

I'M GONNA ASK NOZAKI.

GIMME A SEC.

THIS...

...IS A CANDY APPLE THAT NOZAKI-KUN TOOK A BITE OUT OF!!

HEH!

LOOK!

COME TO THINK OF IT, SAKURA TURNED ALL RED OVER THAT THIS PAST SUMMER, DIDN'T SHE ...?

AN INDIRECT KISS, HUH ...?

I—

I CAN'T EAT IT JUST LIKE THAT!!!

MY HEART SIMPLY ISN'T READY...!!

カアア

KAAA (BLUSH)

HMM?

YOU'RE NOT GONNA EAT IT?

SIGN: YAKI—

HMM.

BUT IF I DO THAT, I WON'T ALWAYS BE ABLE TO SEE IT.

OH, I COULD FREEZE IT!! YEAH, THE FREEZER!!

OR MAYBE USING PRESERVATIVES ON IT IS THE WAY TO GO, HUH!?

...COAT IT SUPER-WELL, AND DISPLAY IT IN MY ROOM!

I NEED TO GET BACK HOME ...

?

SHE WENT OVERBOARD.

THAT WAS WAY BEYOND GETTING ALL RED.

KASHI-MA...
...AND MIKO-SHIBA?
HMM?
SEN-PAI...
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
NO FAIR TAKING SIDE TRIPS!!
OOOH!!
OH?
IT'S HORI-SENPAI.

PROBABLY WAKAMATSU
MOST LIKELY SEO
100% MAMIKOSHIBA
...THREE MEMBERS OF THE LET'S FALL IN LOVE♡ CAST TOGETHER !?
COULD THIS BE...
ACK!
!!!

YEAH!
I BET THEY HAVE A LOT TO CATCH UP ON.
YOU SURE!?
HUH!?
KASHI-MA...
...LET'S GO.
GI CREAK
!!

WHAAAAT!!?
WELL...
...HAVE FUN.

ATTACHMENT TO THE CHARACTER

THERE'S A TON OF TONE TO DO FOR THIS CHAPTER. SORRY, WAKA-MATSU.
YEP.
RIGHT! IT'S TONE TIME FOR WAKA-SAN STARTING TODAY, ISN'T IT, SENPAI!?
NO!!!
GONYO (MUMBLE)
IT'S NOT REALLY LIKE THAT...
GONYO
OH!
THEY'RE BOTH SUPER-ANNOYING, AREN'T THEY !?
I SHOULD'VE CONSIDERED THAT...
IT'S TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT NOW, BUT THESE TWO BOTH HAVE A LOT OF TONE WORK...
DON'T SAY THAT LIKE IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!!!
THEY'RE BOTH BIG PAINS!
AH HA HA!
... YOU KNOW ... THEY'RE KIND OF PERFECT FOR EACH OTHER, DON'T YOU THINK?
...IT REALLY HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
SEN-PAI...
NOW, WOULD YOU PLEASE GET CRACKING ON THE BACKGROUNDS?
GOOD LUCK, WAKA ...!
I JUST ...CAN'T THINK ABOUT THESE TWO AS STRANGERS ANYMORE ...

HE HANDED ME AN ICE CREAM CONE AND LEFT.
WHAT'S GOING ON...
...HERE?
? ? ?
ちら ちら
CHIRA (GLANCE)
CHIRA
WE'RE GOING SHOPPING AFTER WE'RE DONE HERE. DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH US, SENPAI?
YAY, IT'S MIKOSHIBA-SENPAI! HE'S SO COOL!
WHA—!?
ME TOO!?
HUH...? HANG ON. DID I HAVE TO GO DO ASSISTANT WORK TODAY ...?
JUST A MINUTE. GOTTA ASK NOZAKI.
CHA (CLICK)
WHY THE HELL'S EVERY-ONE ASKING NOZAKI ...!?

[ISSUE 63]

COLLEGE STUDENTS GET A MONTH LONGER THAN USUAL.

WE'RE STILL ON BREAK.

IT IS SEPTEMBER, AFTER ALL.

OH.

NO, NOT YET.

... SUMMER BREAK IS OVER FOR YOU NOW TOO, ISN'T IT, MIYAKO-SENSEI?

COME TO THINK OF IT...

UM, RIGHT ...

YOU WON'T HAVE ALL THAT TIME ONCE YOU JOIN THE WORKFORCE, Y'KNOW!!

YOU SHOULD GET YOUR FILL NOW WHILE YOU STILL CAN!

WHAAAT!?

STILL!? YOU COLLEGE KIDS MESS AROUND TOO MUCH!!

TO BE HONEST, IT'S BEEN SOME TIME SINCE I WENT OUT FOR A DRINK. MAYBE I'LL DO THAT...

I HAVEN'T BEEN OUT IN A WHILE BECAUSE OF MY DEAD-LINES.

...WELL, HE MIGHT HAVE A POINT...

MAYBE I'LL GO GET SOME NEW CLOTHES...

HUH ...!?

AND I'M OFF TO A GROUP DATE AFTER THIS. YOU THINK THIS OUTFIT WORKS?

I WAS JUST OUT DRINKING LAST NIGHT! IT WAS TOTALLY EPIC!

OOOH, THAT SOUNDS GOOD!

MAYBE THEY THINK YOU CAN'T HANDLE YOUR ALCOHOL?

PROBABLY 'COS I CAN NEVER GO.

...I NEVER REALLY GET ASKED TO GO OUT DRINKING THESE DAYS...

YOU KNOW ...

THE MIYAKO THEY OFTEN SEE

WORN OUT

IN NEED OF SLEEP

ENERGY DRINK

ISN'T SHE REALLY BUSY WITH HER NIGHT JOB!?

FOR REAL!?

YOU GUYS!!! YUKARI SAYS SHE'S COMING DRINKING WITH US TODAY !!!

UMM...

"I CAN'T REALLY DRINK ALL THAT MUCH. IS THAT OKAY?" ...THERE.

OH, BUT ...

...IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO TELL THEM NOW THAT I CAN'T HANDLE A LOT OF ALCOHOL.

TODAY'S HER DAY OFF. WE'RE NOT GONNA GET IN THE WAY OF HER DAY OFF!!!

YEAH!

GET SOME PLAIN JUICE FOR MIYAKO!

HEY!

WE KNOW THAT!!!

BUT YOU DRINK FOR WORK, DON'T YOU !!?

WE WON'T MAKE HER DRINK A SINGLE DROP!!!

OVER DRINKS

I'M NOT REALLY USED TO GOING OUT DRINKING, BUT IT FEELS KINDA GROWN UP. HOW EXCITING!

HEH HEH HEH!

I KNOW! MAYBE MY NEXT MANGA SHOULD BE ABOUT COLLEGE STUDENTS ...

HEY !!! I TOLD YOU NOT TO JUST SQUIRT LEMON ALL OVER IT!!!

GYAA ギゃあ

SHUT UP!!!

FRIED CHICKEN CALLS FOR LEMON!!!

GYAA (YELL) ギゃあ

OH ...!!

DOKIN (BADUM) ドキン...

AHHHH! YOU TOOK MY DRINK AGAIN !!!

MY HIGH-BALL!!!

YOU'RE NASTY WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK, SO GO GET A SODA OR SOME-THING !!!

GYAA ぎゃあ

WHEN YOU GET DRUNK...

...YOU'RE DEFENSE-LESS. I WORRY ABOUT YOU...

DOKIN ドキン

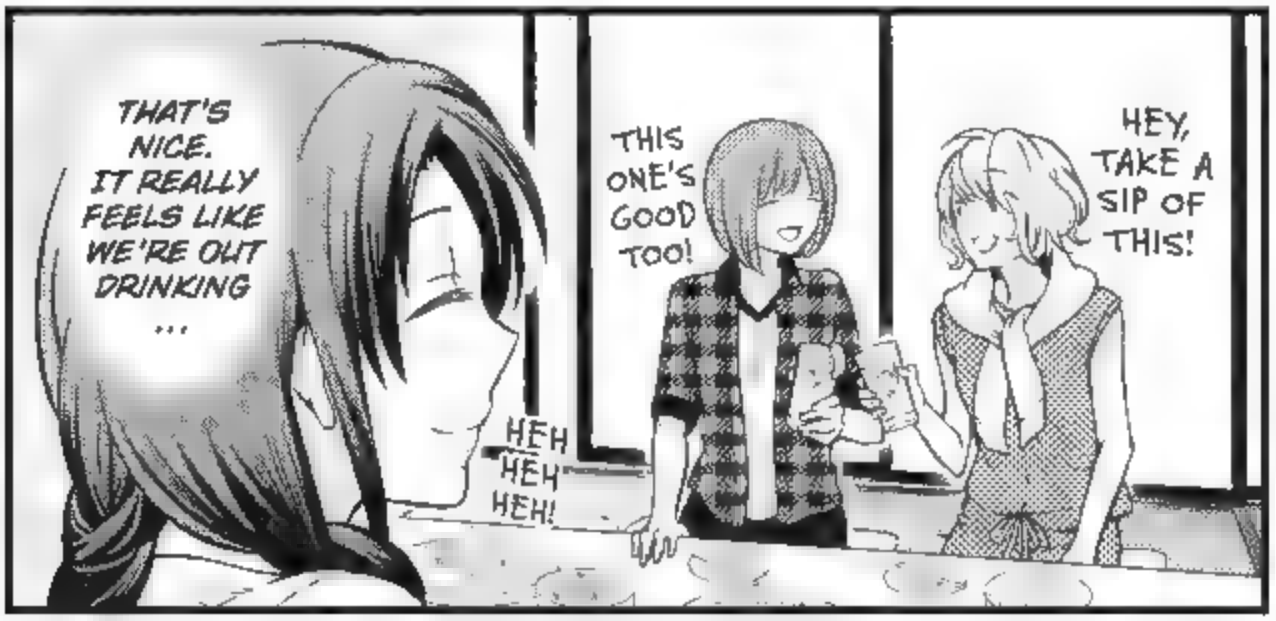
HUH ...!?

...MIYAKO'S LOOKING OVER HERE LIKE SHE'S GAZING AT SOMETHING REALLY PLEASANT ...

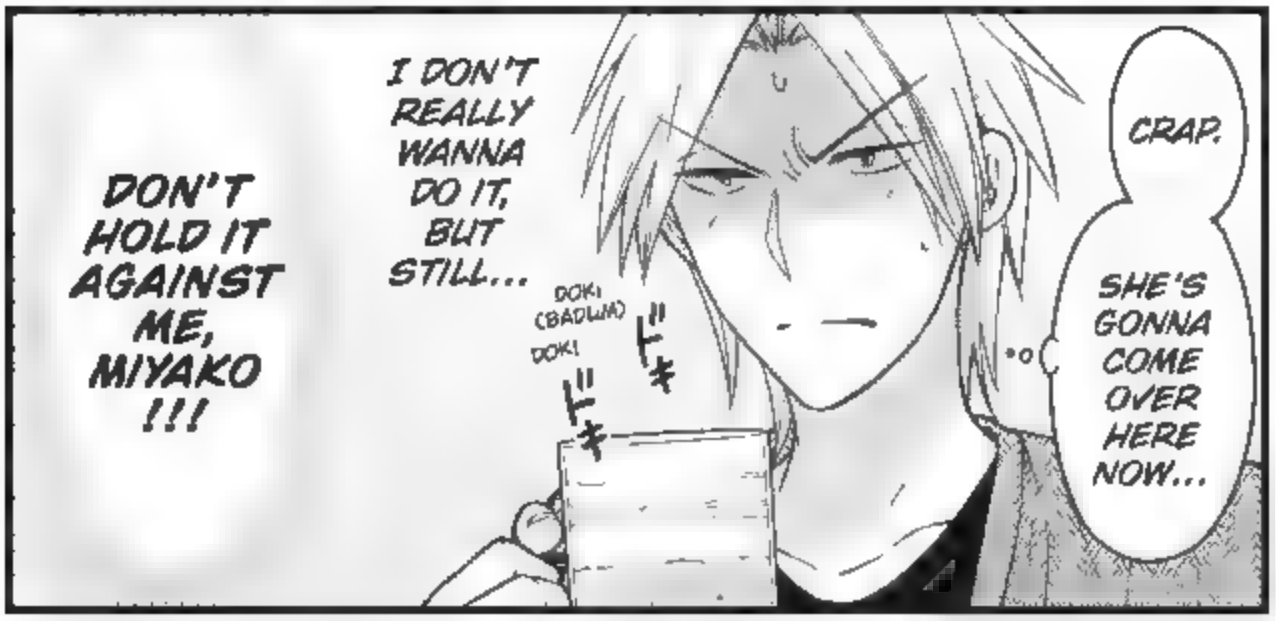
WHAT THE HELL ...?

I BET US FIGHTING IS LIKE A COUPLE OF KITTENS PLAYING WITH EACH OTHER TO YUKARI...

IT'S TERRIFYING...


THAT'S NICE. IT REALLY FEELS LIKE WE'RE OUT DRINKING ...
HEH HEH HEH!
THIS ONE'S GOOD TOO!
HEY, TAKE A SIP OF THIS!

TAKI-KU—
GUBI (GULP)
THIS IS REALLY GROSS !!!
STAY AWAY !!!
STICK WITH JUICE !!
HARU-CHAN, CAN I—?
EEK!
HEY, CAN I TRY THAT ...?
YU-KA-RI !!!
BAH (WHAP)
THIS STUFF'S REALLY GOOD !!!
HAVE SOME!


DON'T HOLD IT AGAINST ME, MIYAKO !!!
I DON'T REALLY WANNA DO IT, BUT STILL...
DOKI (BADUM)
DOKI
CRAP.
SHE'S GONNA COME OVER HERE NOW...

SHE IGNORED ME!!?
SU (PASS)

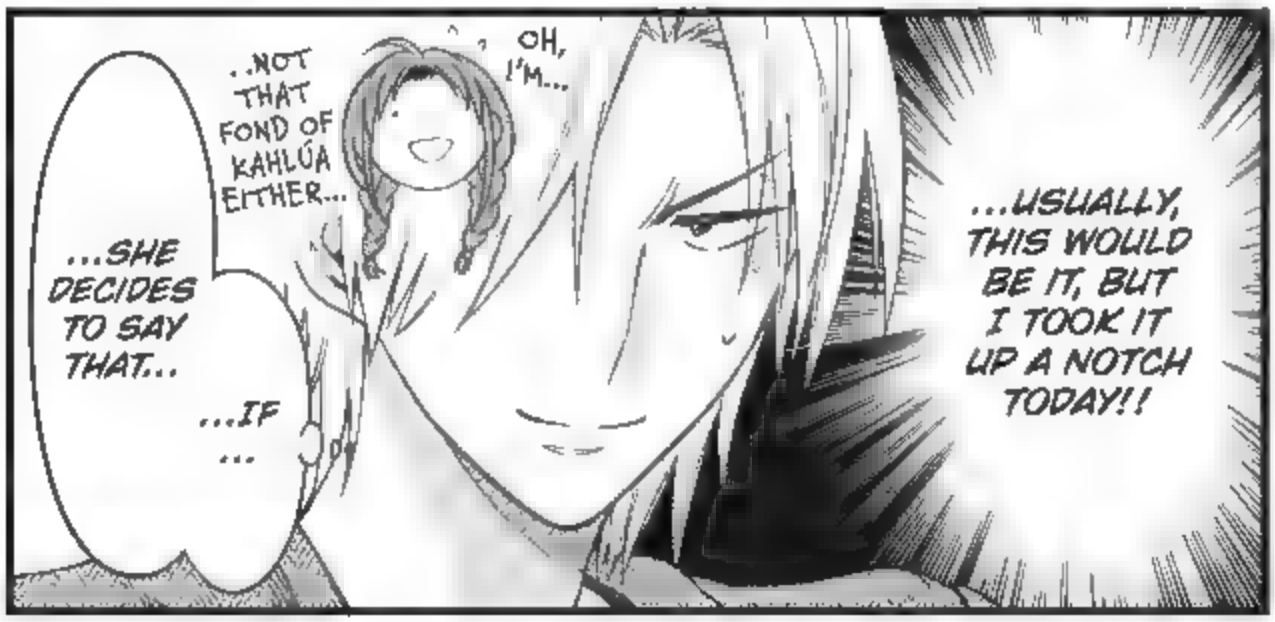
GUSU (GRUMBLE)
くすっ
HUH?
YOU CAN HAVE MINE IF YOU WANT.
NAH. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
OH, YOU HAVE BEER, RYOU-SUKE.
I SHOULD'VE GONE FOR THAT TOO

REALLY!?
IT'S TOO BITTER, SO...
MI-YAKO ...
... DOESN'T REALLY LIKE BEER.
THAT'S WHY SHE WALKS RIGHT BY THE BEER DRINKERS

WHOA, I'M ALREADY DONE WITH MY FIRST ROUND ...?
I'M JUST SO THIRSTY I CAN'T STAND IT!
HEH... I'M GOOD...
HUH... SO THAT MEANS THAT I MADE THE BEST CHOICE TO AVOID HURTING HER.

SWEET LIKE COFFEE MILK
KAHLÚA AND MILK
ABOUT 8% ABV
GIMME KAHLÚA !!!

IT'S A KAHLÚA AND MILK.
UH...
AHEM!
RYOU-SUKE-KUN...
...WHAT'S THAT?
HE REELED HER IN.


OH, I'M...
..NOT THAT FOND OF KAHLÚA EITHER...
...SHE DECIDES TO SAY THAT...
...IF ...
...USUALLY, THIS WOULD BE IT, BUT I TOOK IT UP A NOTCH TODAY!!

BAAAN (TA-DAAA)
HERE!!! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS UNBEATABLE LINEUP!!!
SO MUCH DELICIOUS BOOZE!!!
MOSCOW MULE
CAMPARI ORANGE
SALTY DOG
MATCHA MILK COCKTAIL
JAPANESE STYLE SWEETNESS
INVIGO-RATING CARBON-ATION
SWEET AND REFRES-HING
A BIT SOUR

WHY AM I POURING THE DRINKS DOWN HER THROAT?

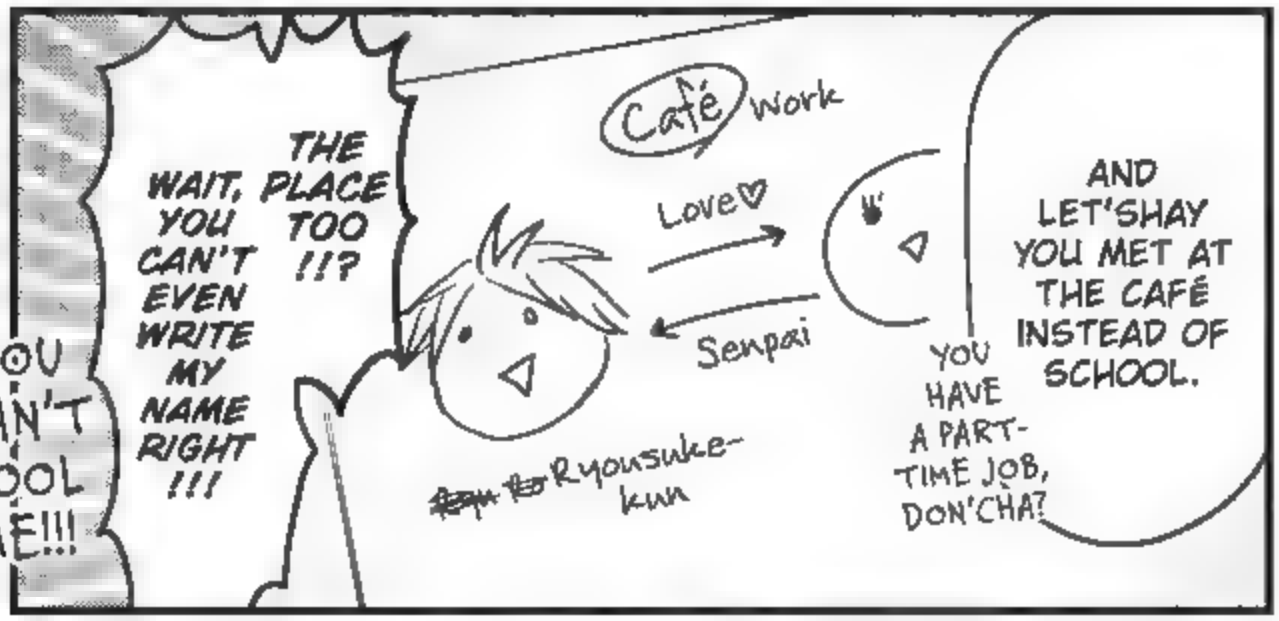
DAMN... EVERYONE'S GONNA BE PISSED...
IS SHE A MEAN DRUNK ...?
WHY'S SHE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE ALCOHOL ANYWAY?
.....
RYOU-SUKE-KUN.

HEY. D'YOU ... ...KNOW 'NY...LOVE SHTORIES?
!!?

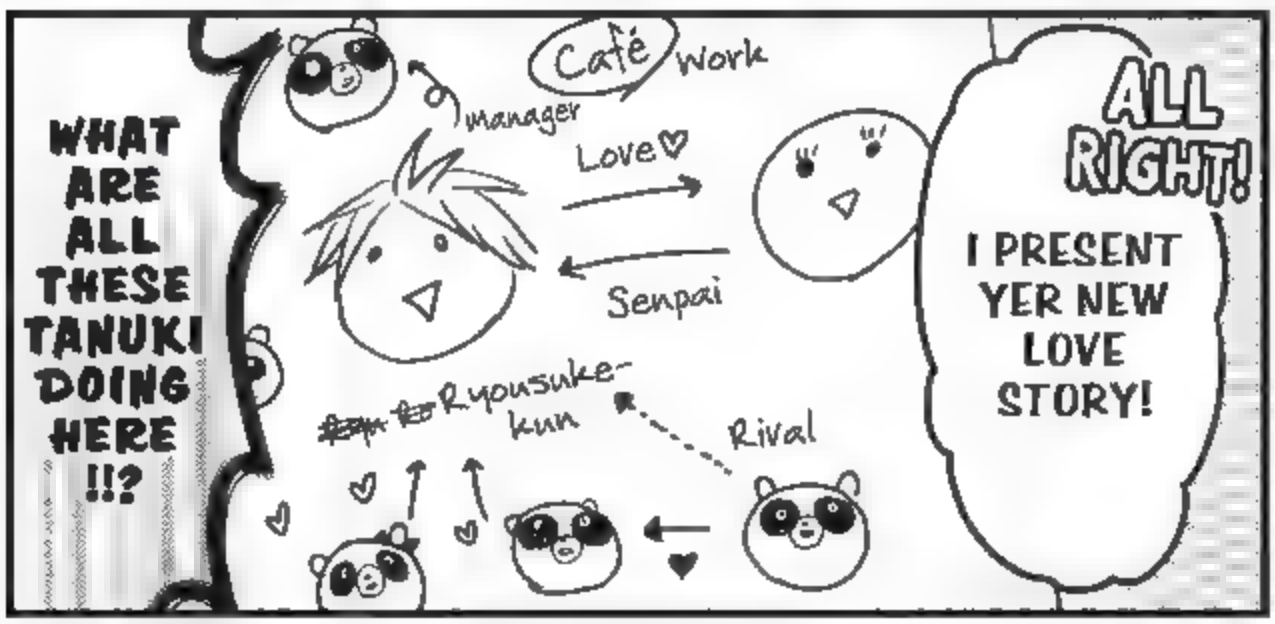
HEY, NOW! I KNOW ALL ABOUT ARGUMENTA-TIVE DRUNKS, BUT THIS IS THE CUTEST ARGUMENTA-TIVE DRUNK I'VE EVER SEEN!
DAMN!!!
WE MET... SAME OL', SAME OL'... 'COS WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS... YADA YADA...
I'M CRUSH-IN' ON SOME-ONE.
IT'S NOT REALLY LOVE.

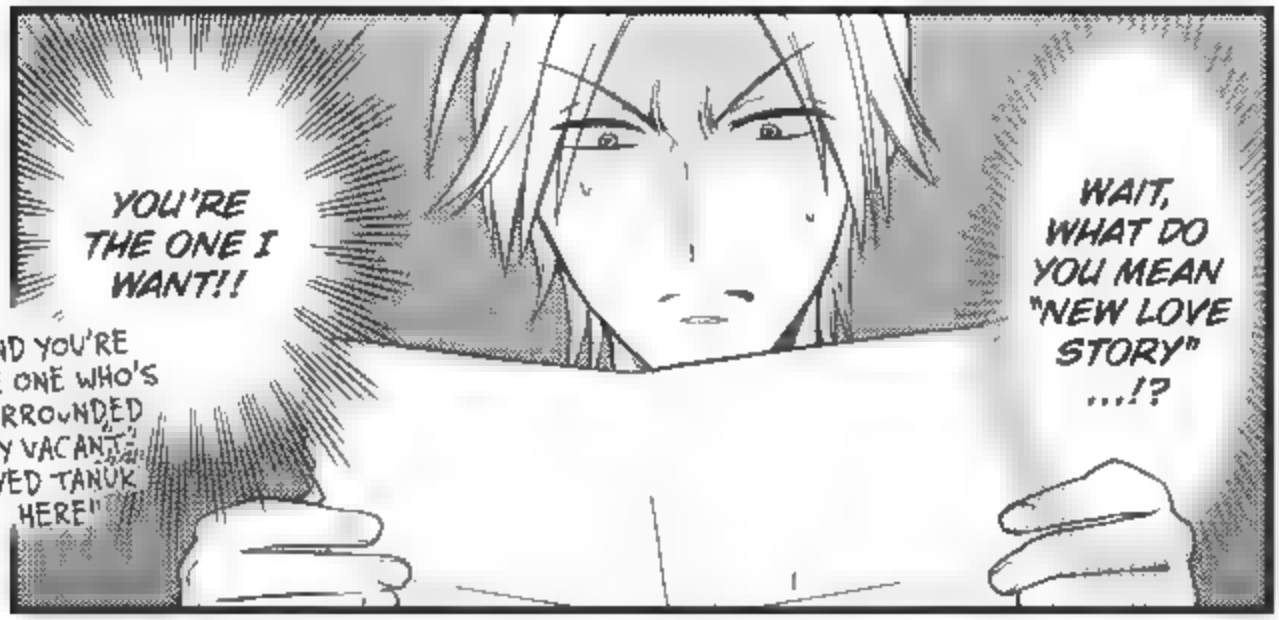
HMMM.
CONCEITED AND LACKING A PROPER CLIMAX.
I GIVE IT A "C."
AND IT'S JUST NOT REALLY THAT INTER-ESTING OVERALL.
SHIT!!! SHE'S BREAK-ING MY HEART !!!

HUH!?
YOU'RE CHANG-ING HER AGE!?
GABA (SIT)
I KNOW !!!
WHAT IF WE MADE HER YOUNGER !?

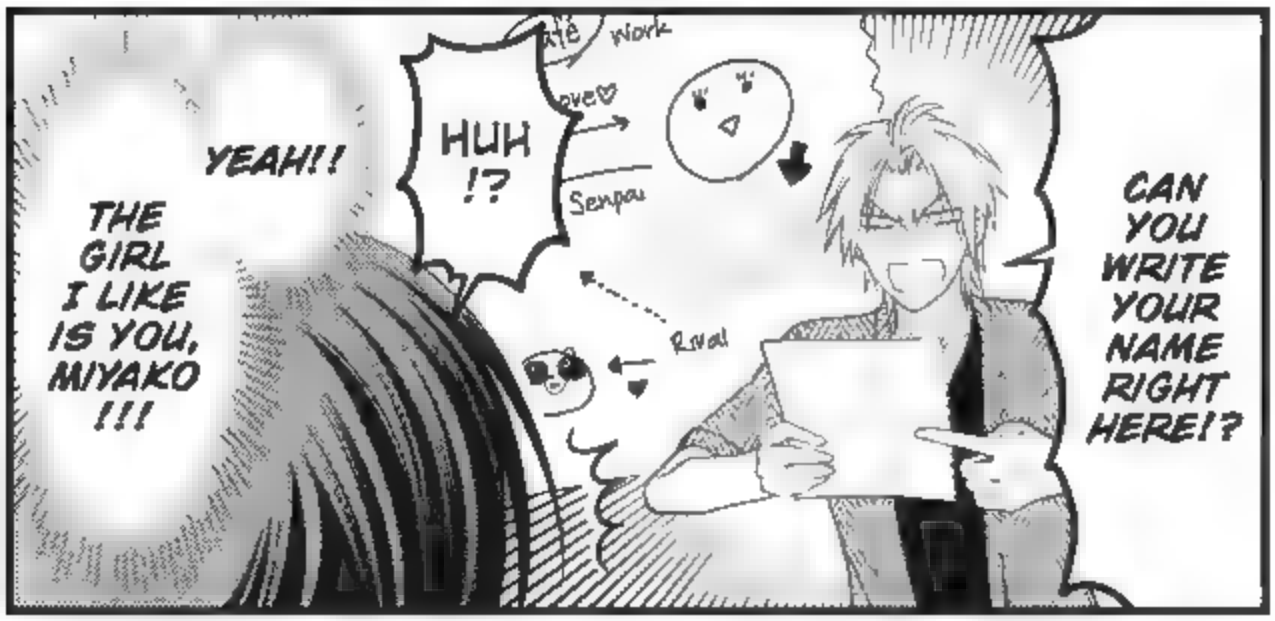

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME!!!
WAIT, YOU CAN'T EVEN WRITE MY NAME RIGHT !!!
THE PLACE TOO !!?
Café Work
Love♡
Senpai
Ryousuke-kun
AND LET'SHAY YOU MET AT THE CAFÉ INSTEAD OF SCHOOL.
YOU HAVE A PART-TIME JOB, DON'CHA?

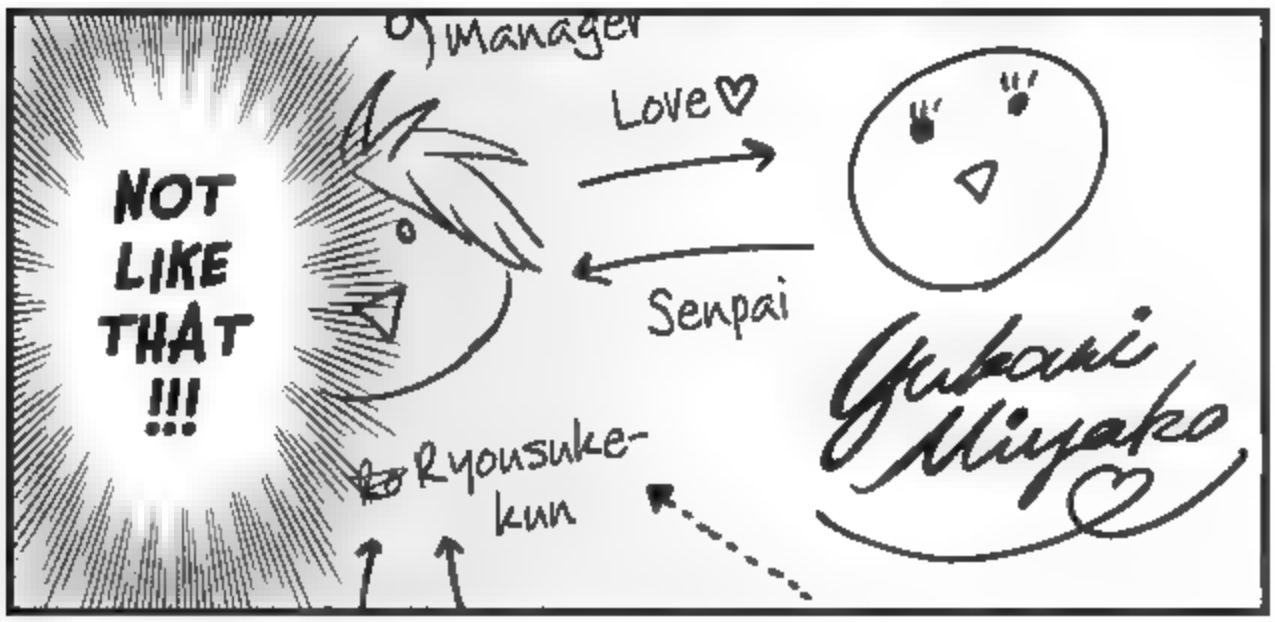
GOTCHA. TWO!
WOULD YOU LISTEN TO ME?
WELL... WHEN YOU ASK ME LIKE YOU'D ASK, "HOW MANY SUGARS DO YOU WANT?" ...
GIRLS!
HOW MANY D'YOU WANT, RYOU-SUKE-KUN?
OH!
WE HAFTA ADD IN SOME RIVALS TOO!


WHAT ARE ALL THESE TANUKI DOING HERE !!?
Café Work
manager
Love♡
Senpai
Ryousuke-kun
Rival
ALL RIGHT!
I PRESENT YER NEW LOVE STORY!


YOU'RE THE ONE I WANT!!
AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S SURROUNDED BY VACANT-EYED TANUK HERE!
WAIT, WHAT DO YOU MEAN "NEW LOVE STORY" ...!?

I HAVE TO MAKE IT TOTALLY CLEAR RIGHT NOW ...!!
MIYA-KO!
WHAT IZZIT?
ABOUT ...
...THIS LOVE INTEREST GIRL HERE...


YEAH!!
THE GIRL I LIKE IS YOU, MIYAKO !!!
HUH !?
Work
Love♡
Senpai
Rival
CAN YOU WRITE YOUR NAME RIGHT HERE!?


Manager
Love♡
Senpai
NOT LIKE THAT !!!
Ryousuke-kun
Yukawa Miyako

THIS... WAS PRETTY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS BACK WHEN WE WERE KIDS...

SHE CAN STILL DO IT...?

TEE HEE HEE HEE!

IT'SH KINDA EMBARRASSING SIGNING A ROUGH SKETCH LIKE THIS!

Love♡

Senpai

YOU'RE REALLY AMAZING!!!

JUST RECENTLY!!?

IT'SH ACTUALLY A SIGNATURE THAT I JUST CAME UP WITH RECENTLY.

D'YOU THINK I'SH WEIRD?

OH?

KINDA LIKE A FAVOR?

OH!

THEN, I'M GONNA ADD "TO RYOUSUKE-KUN," 'KAY?

YOUR SIGNATURE.

HEY.

WRITE IT RIGHT ON THIS ONE.

THAT'S NOT ALL THAT BAD...

SO SHE'S PRETTY CHILDISH, HUH?

TO PREVENT RESELLING.

AND SHE'S TOTALLY WASTED TOO!!!

WHOA! SHIT!

I'VE BEEN FOUND OUT!!!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!?

AHH! WHAT DID YOU GIVE HER ALCOHOL FOR, RYOU-SUKE !!?

WHA —!!?

UMM...

YOU CAN CARRY HER BACK TO HER PLACE NOW.

OKAY, FINE.

WHERE WAS HER PLACE AGAIN?

I SAID ...I WOULDN'T TOUCH HER!!!

IF YOU DO, I'M TAKING A PICTURE.

AND I'LL SHOW IT TO HER LATER

I'D NEVER DO THAT !!!

...AND DON'T GO TOUCHING HER ANYWHERE WEIRD EITHER.

I SAID I WOULDN— WHAAAT!!?

WAIT!

UM...

IF YOU DO TOUCH ME, I'LL USE THIS CAMERA...

...FOR THE PICTURES.

I SOOO WANT SUM PIGGYBACK PHOTOS...

GURL (SPIN)

GURL

GURL

WAIT, NO WAY...

IS IT OKAY IF I TOUCH HER ...?

WHAT'S GOING ON...?

MENTAL CAPACITY IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL

WHAT IF I TURN IT AROUND AND TOUCH HIM SOMEWHERE WEIRD INSTEAD!?

ACK!

HANG ON ...!!!

RIGHT! I'M TAKING IT.

OKAY!

I TOUCHED HIM!

WHOA, STOP IT!

OKAY, I'M DOING IT!!!

WHY DID YOU TWO LET GO!!?

ARE YOU BOTH IDIOTS!!?

HEY!!!

GUSHA (CRUMPLE)

HOW WAS THE DRINKING PARTY?
WELL ...
...I THINK I HAD A BIT TOO MUCH. I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ...
I'M COVERED IN BUMPS AND BRUISES, SO I GUESS I FELL...

OH!
THAT REMINDS ME! I GOT A COUPLE OF PICTURES OUT OF IT.
MAYBE I CAN USE THEM FOR MY MANGA...
OH?
CAN I HAVE A LOOK?

I cleaned you up a bit!
PI
PI (BEEP)

SO? DID THEY COME OUT WELL?
THEY CAME OUT SO WELL THAT YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY EXCUSES.
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY APOLOGIZE
PI

A PICTURE THAT WON'T DO AS-IS

SINCE YOU ALREADY HAVE THEM, WHY NOT USE THEM ANYWAY?

I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE TOOK A PICTURE OF ME LIKE THIS ...!!!

WHAT DO I DO ...!!?

SHE LOOKED.

I'M THE WORST!!

SHE PRINTED THEM OUT.

IF ONLY IT WEREN'T ME... I KNOW ...! I'LL HIDE THE FACES...

I'M DYING OF SHAME. I CAN'T USE THESE ...!!

I-I CAN'T ...!

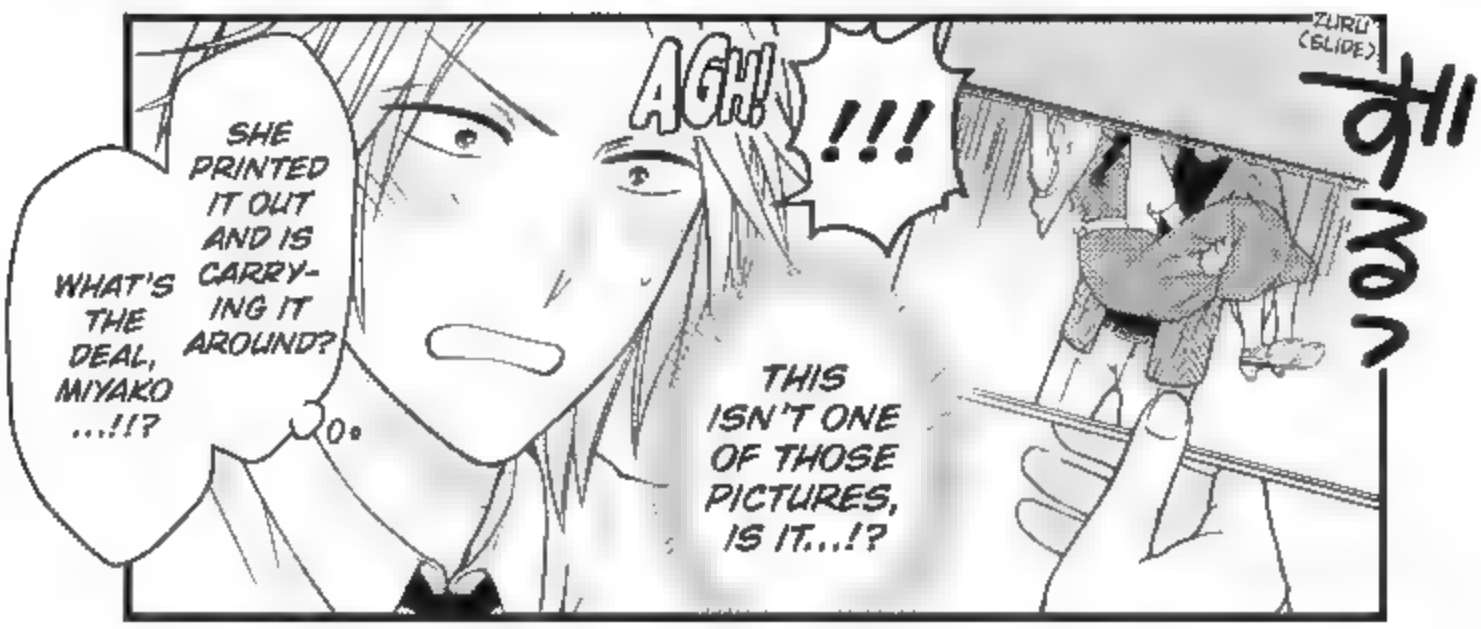
きゃっ... KYU (SQUEAK)

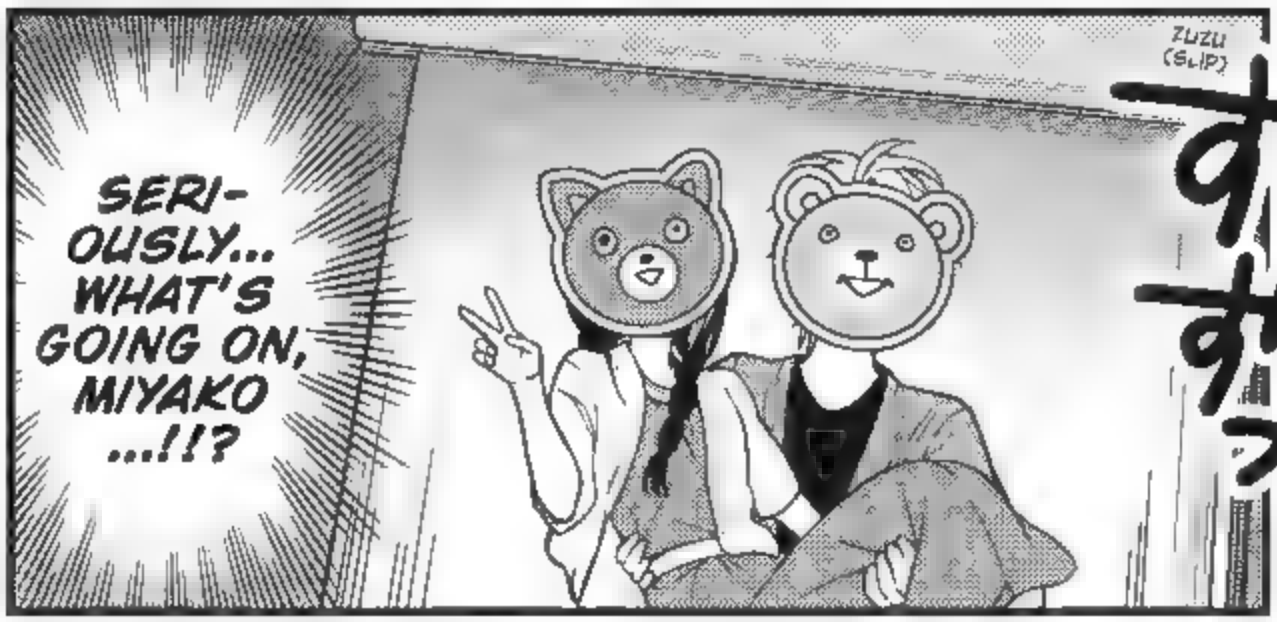
.....

THAT'S EVEN WORSE!!!

I'M REALLY VERY SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY!
HUH? IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
I GOT SOME-THING OUT OF IT.
GABA (WHAP)

SEO-KUN.
I THINK THAT CUSTOMER JUST NOW FORGOT SOME-THING...
CAN YOU GET AHOLD OF HER?
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
WE SHOULD PROLLY CHECK JUST IN CASE...


ZURU (SLIDE)
AGH!
!!!
THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE PICTURES, IS IT...!?
SHE PRINTED IT OUT AND IS CARRY-ING IT AROUND?
WHAT'S THE DEAL, MIYAKO ...!!?


ZUZU (SLIP)
SERI-OUSLY... WHAT'S GOING ON, MIYAKO ...!!?

[ISSUE 64]

EXCUSE ME!?

G-GAINED WEIGHT...!?

...GAINED WEIGHT LATELY?

GATA (CLATTER)

CHIYO...

...HAVE YOU...

AHH...

SHE JUST CAME RIGHT OUT AND SAID IT...

BUT NOW THAT SHE'S MENTIONED IT...I MIGHT BE A LITTLE MEATY...

FOR REAL ...?

Y'KNOW, MY BODY FEELS A LITTLE ON THE HEAVY SIDE THESE DAYS TOO...

KA-SHI-MA!!

HAVE I GOT-TEN FAT-TER !?

HUH?

UH...

JUST TELL ME THE TRUTH !!!

DON'T HOLD BACK !!

C'MON!!

SORRY, I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT LITTLE THINGS ABOUT YOU HAVE CHANGED.

I DON'T REALLY CARE.

THAT'S NOT THE TRUTH I WAS LOOKING FOR.

THAT TRUTH HURTS!

THE READERS' VOICES

WAKU
I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR WHAT THEY THINK!
THAT'S KIND OF AN OLD STORY, BUT I'M PRETTY PROUD OF IT...
WAKU (EXCITED)
DEH HEH HEH...
SOWA
SO THEY'RE READ-ING MY MANGA, HUH...?
SOWA (NERVOUS)

THEY'RE TOTALLY BASHING IT!
DO YOU THINK WE'RE STUPID !!!?
THIS ISN'T REALISTIC AT ALL!!!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT!?
YOU CAN LOSE WEIGHT IN THREE PANELS !?
THREE PANELS !?
BASHI
BASHI (SMACK)

WHEN WE WORK ON MANGA AND STUFF... WE'RE ALWAYS SITTING STILL. ISN'T THAT THE PROB-LEM?
YOU'RE RIGHT!
WE SHOULD TRY TO GET AS MUCH EXERCISE IN WHILE WE'RE WORKING AS WE CAN!

GUN
GUN (PLUMP)
GUN
GUN
?

KOTO コト
KOTO (THUNK) コト

SHAKA しゃか
SHAKA しゃか
SHAKA (SKRITCH) しゃか
THIS
PAPER-WEIGHTS ...!
春
SPRING
OH!

MAYBE WE OUGHTA ASK SOME OF THE JOCKS.
...WE REALLY DON'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT EXERCISING, DO WE?
BUT...
MULT.-TASK.NG WITH A WORKOUT IS POINTLESS.
I GUESS WE'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO EXERCISE FOR REAL...

IS THERE ANYONE LIKE TH—?
SO... A JOCK WITH DECENT MUSCLE MASS, WHO GOT THERE WITHOUT REALLY DOING MUCH OF ANYTHING, HUH...?
WHILE I'M AT IT, I WANT SOME MUSCLES.
I KIND OF... ...WANT AN EASY WAY TO LOSE WEIGHT...

SO... ...WHAT DID THEY SAY, NOZAKI!?
IT'S GOTTA BE A FIGHT!!
DUMB-ASS!
WAY TO GO!
AS IN A DECLARATION OF LOVE!?
HUH!?
YOU GUYS! APPARENTLY, NOZAKI GOT CALLED OUT BY A HIGH SCHOOLER!!
FIRST JUNIOR HIGH

WHY!?
"I WANT AN EASY WAY TO LOSE WEIGHT."

G1: ONZAKI FIRST JUNIOR HIGH

OH.
THAT'S BECAUSE ...
...YOU SEEM REALLY WORKED UP TODAY.
BUT STILL ...
AND YOU'RE TALKING A LOT TOO.
AND THEN WE EVEN DARED TO ROPE YOU, NOZAKI-KUN'S BROTHER, INTO IT...
THIS WAS STUPID OF US.
SORRY.

OH NO... HE ACTUALLY IS A SERIOUS ATHLETE ...!!
...IS THE REAL PART OF MY DAY.
FROM HERE ON OUT...
...I RESERVE ALL OF MY PHYSICAL STRENGTH FOR MY CLUB ACTIVI-TIES.

YOUR FORM SHOULD BE BLAH, BLAH...
NOW HE'S GONNA START IN ON SOME BORING EXPLANA-TION...!!
YIKES !!!
HUH !?
NO, UH...
SO...
...DO YOU JUST NOT KNOW HOW TO RUN?
OH, OKAY...
YOUR PACE SHOULD BE BLABBITY-BLAH...

SO BASIC !!!
JUST KIND OF SWING YOUR ARMS AROUND AND STUFF.

FIRST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
OKAY, LET'S RUN.
I USUALLY YELL OUT "FIRST JUNIOR, FIGHT ON!"
SINCE YOUR SCHOOL NAME IS—
I'M NOT DOING "ROMA-HIGH"!!
STOP WITH THE SCHOOL NAME!!
IT'S EMBAR-RASSING!!

GAME: MIRACLE SHIRATSURU HANEOKA HIGH SCHOOL♥

"SHIRABANE" FOR SHORT

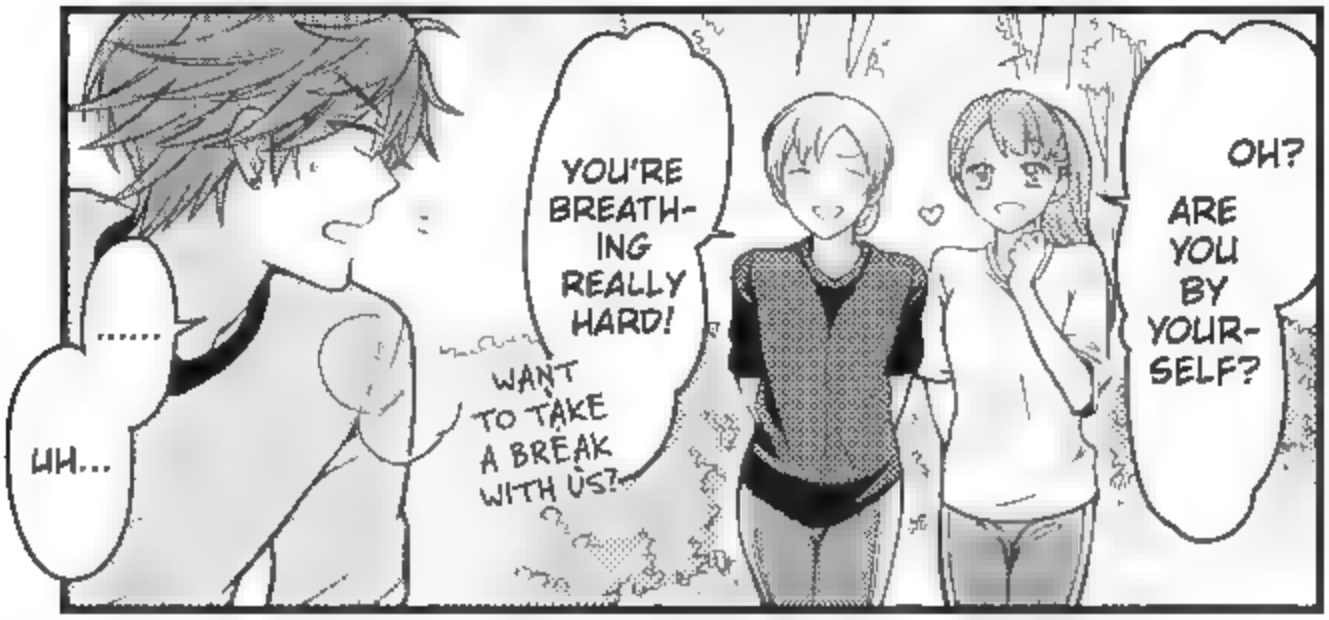
WELL, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO SAY, CHIYO-SAN?
HUH? ME!?
HAAH!
THAT WAS SOME HORRIBLE PUBLIC HUMILIATION RIGHT THERE...
HFF!
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE THAT.

SOMETHING THAT GETS ME GOING ...?
THEN...
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A SCHOOL NAME.
IT CAN BE ANYTHING THAT GETS YOU GOING.

"SAKURA, YOU HAVE SUCH A SMALL WAIST!"
FIGHT! ON!
FIGHT! ON!
"SAKURA, DID YOU LOSE WEIGHT!?"

HOW IS THIS NOT EMBAR-RASS-ING!?
FIGHT! ONNN! ♡
"SAKURA, I LIKE YOU! LET'S GO OUT!"

I WANNA PRETEND I DON'T KNOW THEM...
HFFF!
HAAH!
MIKORIIIIN!
OH, MAYU-KUN!!
MIKORIN FELL BEHIND!!


.....
UH...
YOU'RE BREATH-ING REALLY HARD!
WANT TO TAKE A BREAK WITH US?
OH?
ARE YOU BY YOUR-SELF?

YEAH, IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT.
IT HAPPENS WHEN A PAIR OF LOVELY ANGELS SUDDENLY APPEARS.
IT'S 'COS MY HEART IS BEATING SO FAST THAT IT'S HARD TO BREATHE.
I'M NOT BREATHING HARD 'COS I'VE BEEN RUNNING.

MIKORIN CAME BACK!!
WELCOME BACK!
OH!

YOU CAN PUSH YOURSELVES HARDER IF YOU THINK OF SOME SORT OF REWARD WAITING AT THE END.
A REWARD ...?
HFFF!
HFFF!
AGHH!
I'M ABOUT DONE FOR...
THIS IS TOUGH!

A REWARD AFTER WE FINISH RUNNING, HMM?
THINKING THINGS LIKE THAT IS KINDA CUTE.
HONOBONO (HEARTWARMING)
ほのぼの

MAKE IT SOME-THING A LITTLE MORE REFRESH-ING!!!
I'LL GET THAT LITTLE SISTER ROUTE AND THE DEPRESSING ENDING THAT I DIDN'T GET THE FIRST TIME AROUND!
AFTER RUN-NING, GAME!
AFTER RUN-NING, GAME!

HOW CAN YOU STILL MOVE !?
AFTER RUNNING, I CAN GO TO PRACTICE AND DO FREE EXERCISES AND PRACTICE BOUTS. I CAN BRUSH UP ON MY THROWS AND HOLDS!
AFTER RUN-NING, PRAC-TICE!
AFTER RUN-NING, PRAC-TICE!

THEY'RE BOTH PRETTY UNIQUE ...

IT SHOULD BE MORE LIKE...

SAKURA.

SAKURA.

SAKURA.

SAKURA.

AND THAT DESSERT PLATE...

...NOTHING BEATS THAT.

...WAS AMAZING TOO.

AND THAT PUDDING...

...WERE REALLY GOOD.

YOU KNOW, THE PANCAKES FROM THE OTHER DAY...

.....

I'M SO FULL...

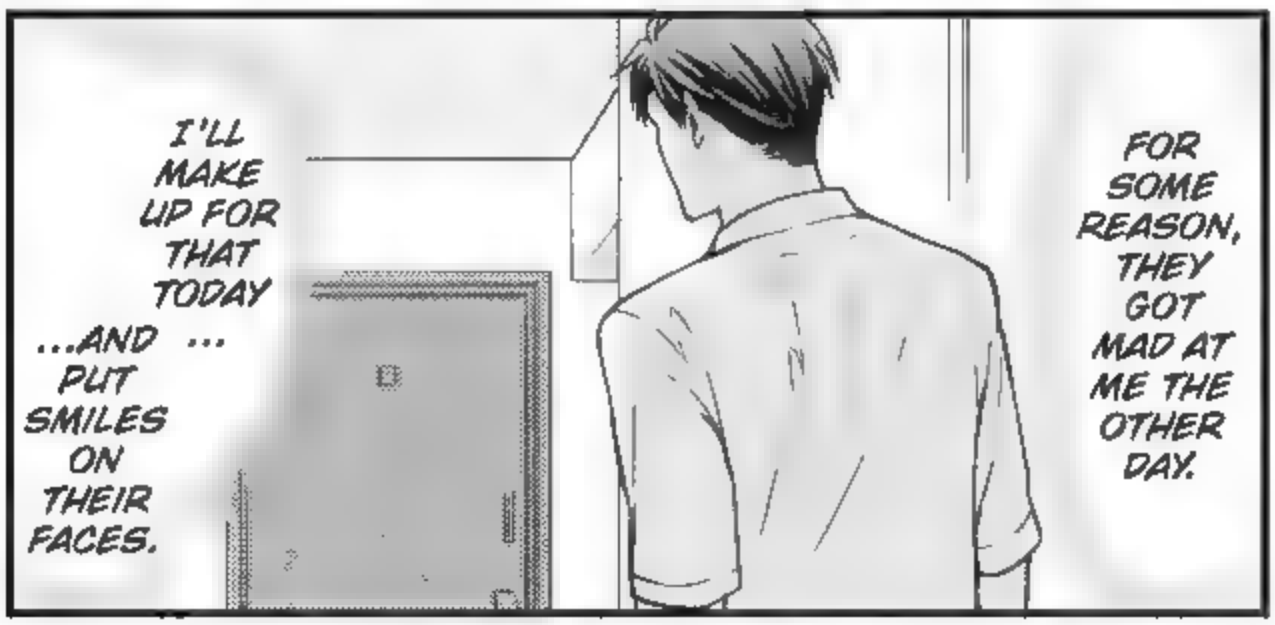
THE CULPRIT BEHIND CHIYO'S WEIGHT GAIN—

NOZAKI.

BIKU

AAAAHHHHH!

OH, THEY'RE HERE.
PINPOOON (DING-DONG)
ピーンポーン!


I'LL MAKE UP FOR THAT TODAY ...AND ... PUT SMILES ON THEIR FACES.
FOR SOME REASON, THEY GOT MAD AT ME THE OTHER DAY.

...IS A FULL CAKE!!!
TODAY'S SNACK...
COME! REJOICE, SAKURA!! MIKO-SHIBA!!

THEY GOT MAD AGAIN TODAY.
!!?
IDIOT!!!
YOU I—

FIGHT! ON!
... NAH. THAT SORT OF ROMANCE STUFF WOULD NEVER HAPPEN WITH HIM...
TA (TMP)
TA
TA
HUH!? WAS IT A... ... LOVE CON-FES-SION !?
FIRST JUNIOR!
FIGHT! ON!
DID YOU HEAR? MAA-KUN GOT CALLED OUT TODAY! BY A HIGH SCHOOLER!
SAKURA, YOU HAVE SUCH A SMALL WAIST!
FIGHT! ON!
FIGHT! ON!
SAKURA, DID YOU LOSE WEIGHT !?
WH—
WHAAAAT!!?
SAKURA, I LIKE YOU! LET'S GO OUT!
FIGHT! ONNN! ♡

AFTER SCHOOL. ONE GLOOMY FRIDAY

THE DRAMA CLUB'S NOT MEETING TODAY.

MAYBE I OUGHTA GO HOME EARLY FOR ONCE.

THEN, AS I PASSED BY A CLASSROOM...

ZUZU (SLIDE)

...I SAW MY KOUHAI ...

...DOING SOME SORT OF WEIRD RITUAL.

ZUZUZUZU

ZUZUZUZU

ZUZUZUZU

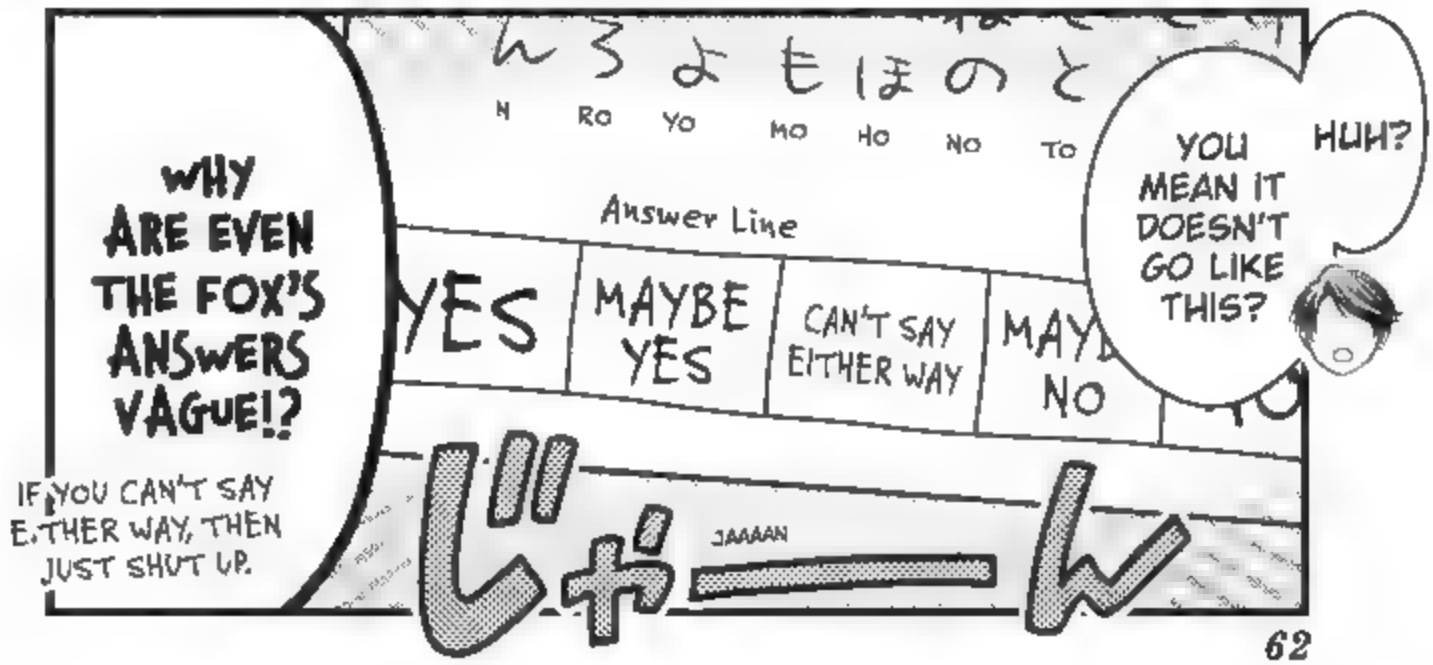
ZUZUZUZU...

[ISSUE 65]

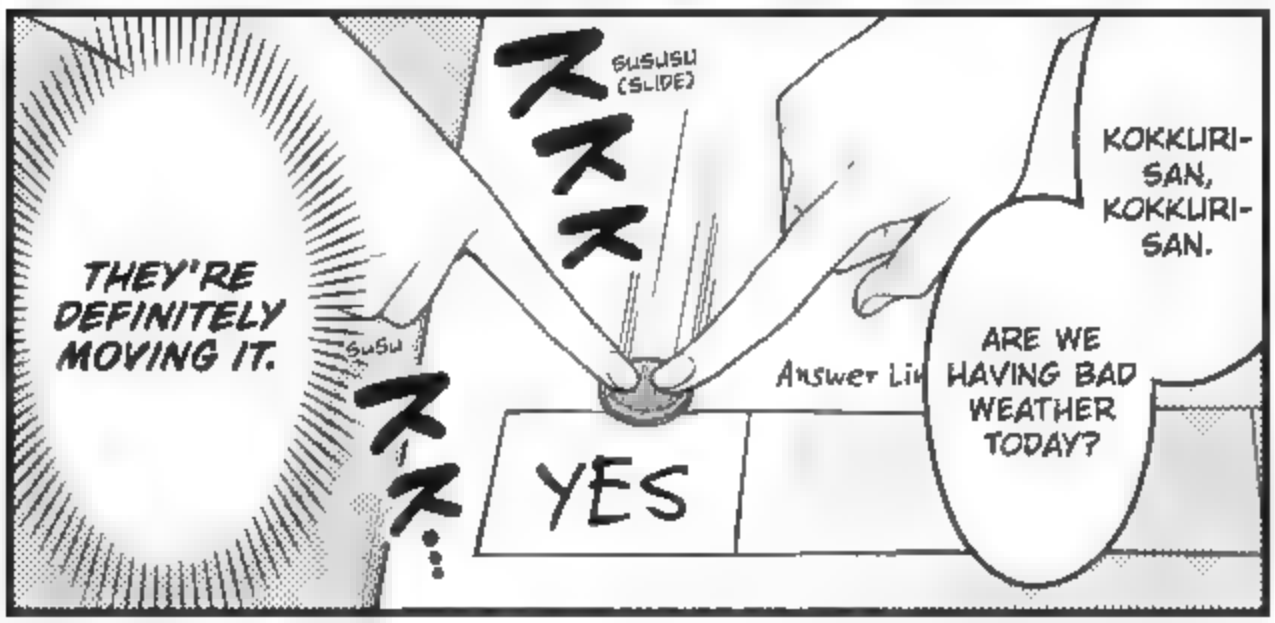
EVERYTHING IS VAGUE

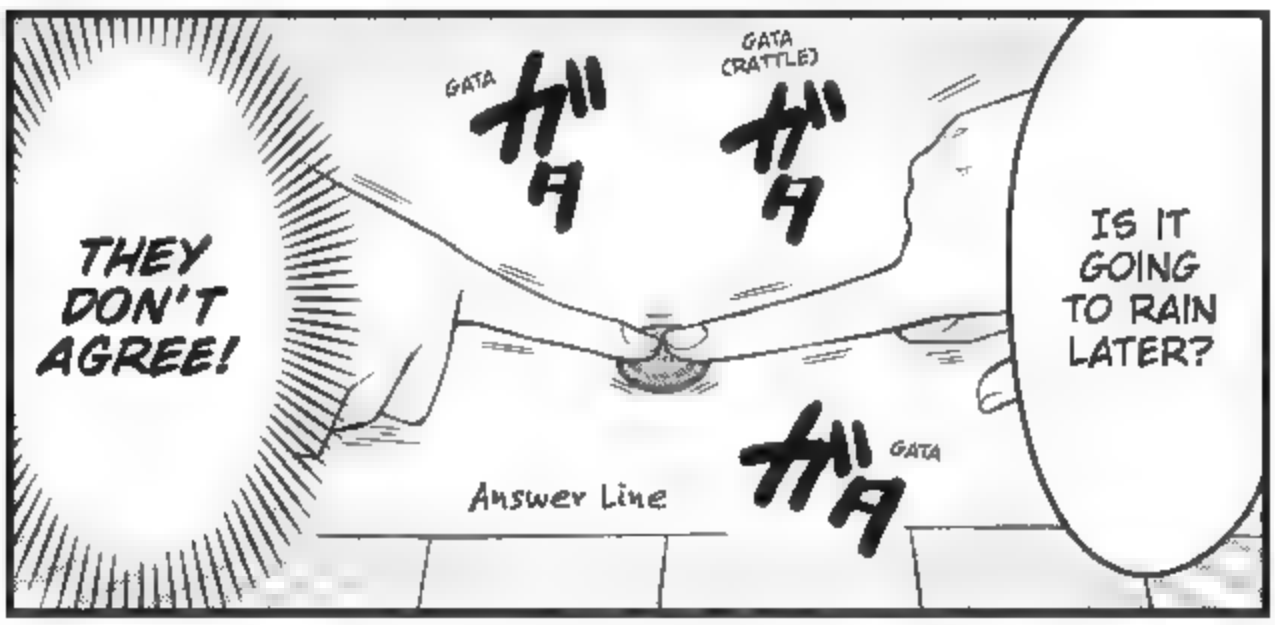
WELL...
...WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW WE WONDERED WHAT IT WAS LIKE.
WE KIND OF WANTED TO TRY IT OUT.
WHY...?
HUH!?
YOU'RE PLAYING KOKKURI-SAN?*

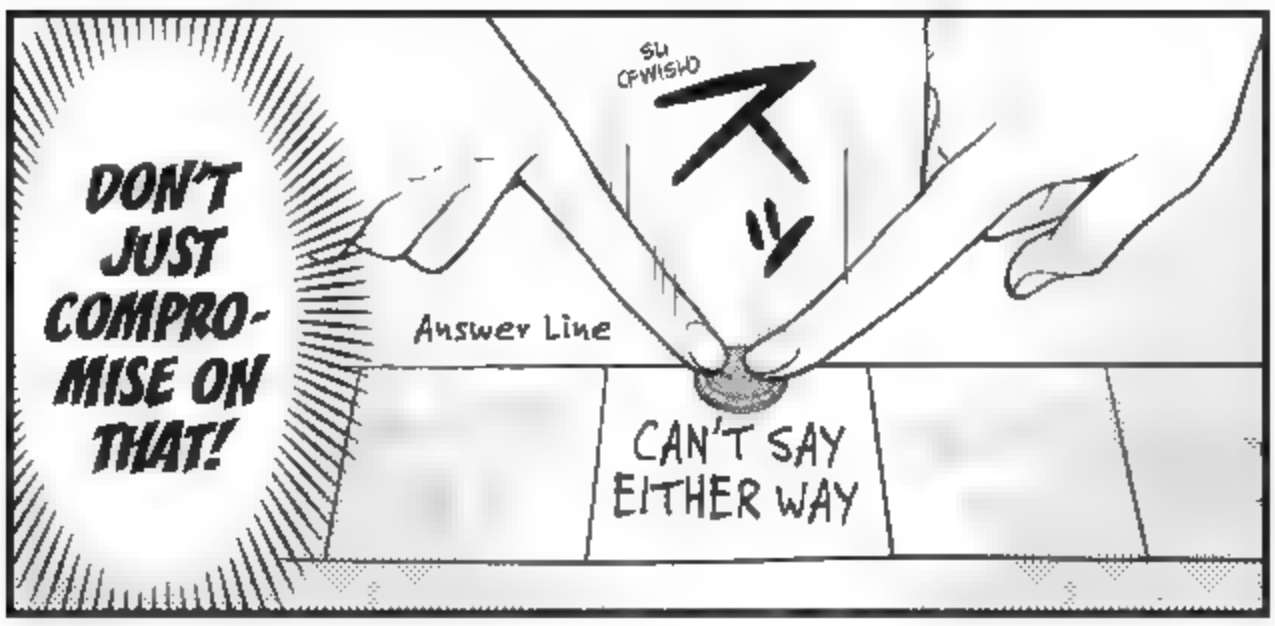
*A JAPANESE GAME SIMILAR TO A OUIJA BOARD IN WHICH A FOX SPIRIT ANSWERS QUESTIONS



GETTING RIGHT TO IT







BE SURE TO LOCK UP.

IT'S MOVING! IT'S MOVING !!!

SEE!? KOKKURI-SAN IS REALLY POWER-FUL, SENPAI!!

OH!

YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, DO YOU!!?

I'M GONNA GET GOING.

OH YEAH ?

THEN, I'LL ASK IT A THIRD-YEAR MATH QUESTION.

A QUES-TION...

YOU ASK IT A QUESTION TOO!

数学III

BOOK: MATH III

YOU KNOW THAT !!?

THAT'S AMAZING!!!

ZA

R!

P!

L!

U!

S!

ZA

F!

O!

U!

ZA (FINISH)

I CAN SEE THAT.

NO NEED TO LOOK SO THRILLED.

I'M NOT PUTTING ANYTHING INTO IT AT ALL!!

LOOK, LOOK, LOOK!

SENPAI! LOOK! IT'S JUST MOVING ALL BY ITSELF!

*BRAISED PORK BELLY, A SPECIALTY OF NAGASAKI

HUH!?
NOW WHAT, KASHIMA-KUN!!?
TELL US KASHIMA'S EMBARRASSING SECRET.
OKAY. KOKKURI-SAN, KOKKURI-SAN.
WOULDN'T IT BE MORE FUN TO ASK IT STUFF THAT'D TOTALLY SHOCK US IF WE KNEW?

"THE TRUTH IS...
"...I'M GOING COMMANDO."
SHE JUST LET FLY WITH A REALLY ICKY LIE!!!
IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN CHECK!

HE WENT AND DID IT!!!
SHORTS.
BUT YOU'RE WEARING SOMETHING.

WAIT A MINUTE!!!
I MEANT I'M COMMANDO UNDER MY SHORTS!
OKAY. FINE. WHATEVER! ONE OF YOU JUST BACK DOWN!!!

WHO'S THE BAD GUY?

WHAAAT?
SO I'M THE BAD GUY?
...GOT TICKED OFF AT HER "BET YOU'RE SHOCKED!" FACE.
I JUST KINDA...
WELL...
DID YOU ACTUALLY TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY, HORI-SENPAI?
KAAA (BLUSH)
HUH!?
COMMANDO!?
...WOULD HAVE GONE LIKE THIS.
WH—
WHAT THE HELL!!?
IF IT'D BEEN REAL, THAT LAST SCENE...
NO... HORI-SENPAI WAS THE VILLAIN HERE.!..
...IS WHAT THEY'D SAY.
"GOING COM-MANDO!"
AND WHEN SOME-ONE ASKED HOW THEY GOT TO-GETH-ER...
DOKI (BADUM) DOKI
...WOULD EVENTU-ALLY TURN INTO THE HEART-POUND-ING OF LOVE.
...AND THEN ...
...THAT ANXIETY...
WAS SHE SERIOUS ABOUT GOING COMMANDO ...?
H—
HEY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET THAT MAD...
IT WAS PARTLY MY FAULT TOO.
BIKU (FLINCH)
YOU'RE THE WORST !!!
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND TELL A LIE LIKE THAT !!?
BAN (WHAM)

OH!
NOZAKI-KUN!!
ACTUALLY, WE'RE DOING KOKKURI-SAN!
EVEN HORI-SENPAI...
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS UP TO?

HE'S SURPRISINGLY ENTHUSIASTIC!!!
CAN I GET IN ON THAT TOO!?
I WANNA DO IT!!
BA (LUNGE)
HUH!?
KOK-KURI-SAN!?

WAKU (EXCITED)
わく
OH!!
Y—
YEAH ...!?
CAN WE ASK IT WHAT MY BIRTHDAY IS FIRST?
I... GUESS?
SOWA
そわ
IT GETS THINGS RIGHT...
...DOESN'T IT?
SOWA (NERVOUS)
SEE, WHEN I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL...
...THE GIRLS WERE DOING IT AND WOULDN'T LET ME JOIN IN...

ACK... THEY'RE ...
...PASSING OFF ALL THE RESPONSI-BILITY TO ME...!!!
KOKKURI-SAN, KOKKURI-SAN.
IT'S ALL IN YOUR HANDS NOW.

KOKKURI-SAN, KOKKURI-SAN... WHEN IS MY BIRTH-DAY?

sususu (I WISH)

スススー…

"JUNE 6TH."

KOKKURI-SAN, KOKKURI-SAN... WHAT'S MY FAVORITE FOOD?

sususususu

スススススー…

"PLAIN RICE..."

..."PARTICULARLY WHEN IT'S COOKED FIRM."

KOK-KURI-SAN, KOK-KURI-SAN.

I WANT TO GET A HAIR-CUT. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...WE CAN AVOID CRUSHING HIS DREAMS.

YEAH. NOW ...

...BUT ...

KOSO (WHISPER) (INT)

IT'S LIKE A KOKKURI-SAN JUST FOR NOZAKI.

SHE'S ... ... REALLY AMAZING, ISN'T SHE?

TOO LONG !!!

su

sususu

sususu

su

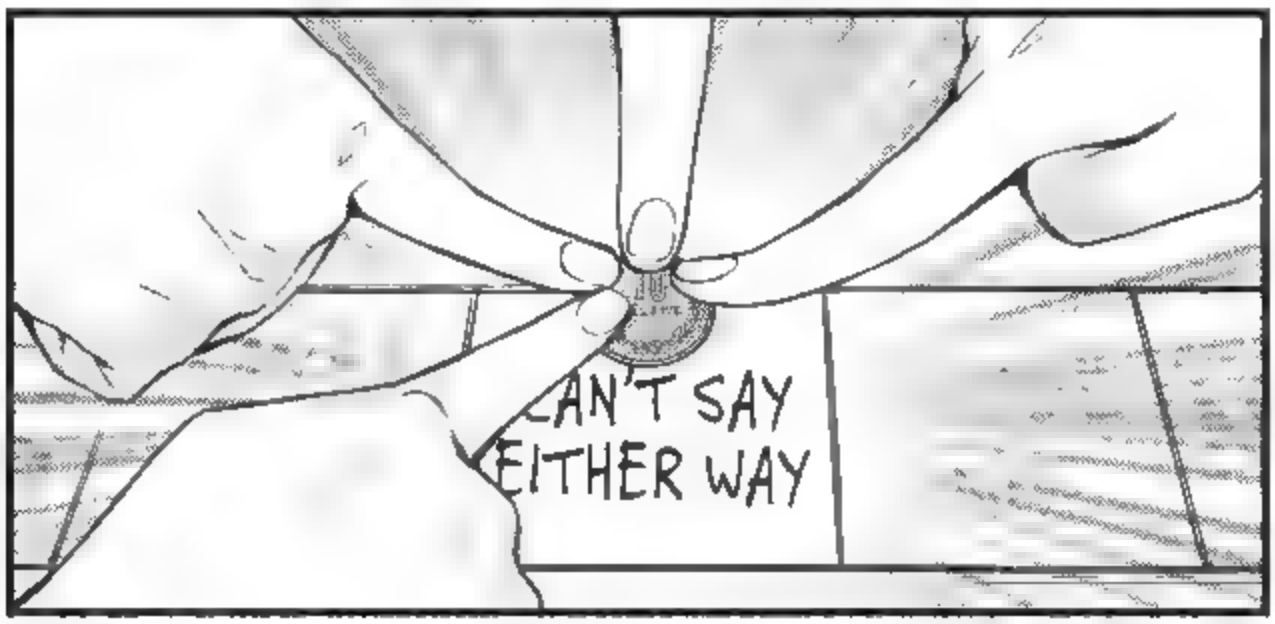
su

"YOUR HEAD HAS A NICE SHAPE, SO YOU WOULD LOOK GOOD WITH A BUZZ CUT... OH YEAH, WHEN YOU GREW IT OUT IN THE FALL OF FIRST YEAR, THAT WAS PRETTY COOL TOO..."

HUH...?
LET'S FALL IN LOVE♡ ...?
ISN'T THAT A SHOUJO MANGA ...?
WHAT!?
HUH!?
GABA (WHAP)
IT'S ABOUT LET'S FALL IN LOVE♡ ...
JUST ONE MORE, I THINK.

... KOKKURI-SAN, KOKKURI-SAN.
I HAVE TWO IDEAS ABOUT WHERE THE STORY GOES FROM THERE...
ERM ...
THE LAST CHAPTER ENDED WITH MAMIKO GETTING KIDNAPPED BY THE SOCCER TEAM.

HEY, THAT'S A LOT OF RESPON-SIBILITY... WHAT SHOULD WE DO, SAKURA ...!!?
!!!
WHICH IS BET-TER!?
ONE! SUZUKI COMES TO RES-CUE HER. TWO! MAMIKO GETS OUT ON HER OWN.


CAN'T SAY EITHER WAY

GOING ALONG WITH IT

IS THAT MANGA REALLY SO GREAT ...
...THAT HE'S THIS WORKED UP ABOUT PREDICTING THE NEXT CHAPTER ...?
WAAAAAH, KOKKURI-SAAAN!!
NO WAY ...!!!
PICK ONE ...!!

SHE DECIDED TO JOIN IN.
"...AND TAKE A SHOT AT HER CAPTORS."
"I THINK MAMIKO SHOULD COMBINE WITH A SOCCER BALL...
sususu
ススス...
WHAT...!? WHO'S MOVING IT...!?

WELL ...
...I'M GONNA CALL IT QUITS.
OH!
WAIT.
...
GATA GATA
THAT WAS HELPFUL.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

WHAA-AAAT!?
I'M PRETTY SURE THE GIRLS FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT..
HEY.
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO GET CURSED IF YOU DON'T FINISH UP PLAYING KOKKURI-SAN THE RIGHT WAY?

ERR...
THE GATE AT THE TOP OF THE SHEET IS THE ENTRANCE.
RETURN THE COIN THERE, AND YOU'RE DONE...
I'LL LOOK IT UP.
OHH.
DON'T PANIC.
SAY THAT SOONER !!!
EEEEEK!
SOME-THING TO DO WITH NOT TAKING YOUR HANDS OFF DURING IT...
...OR SOME-THING...

...HAS NO GATE!!!
Come to us Kokkuri-san!!
YOOOM
Let's get started!
Kokkuri-san
Fried tofu
THIS SHEET ...
AGH!
!!!
YES
MAYBE
NO

TELLING THE FUTURE

SIGNS: RECOMMENDED / NEW RELEASES

MAGAZINE: MONTHLY GIRLS' ROMANCE

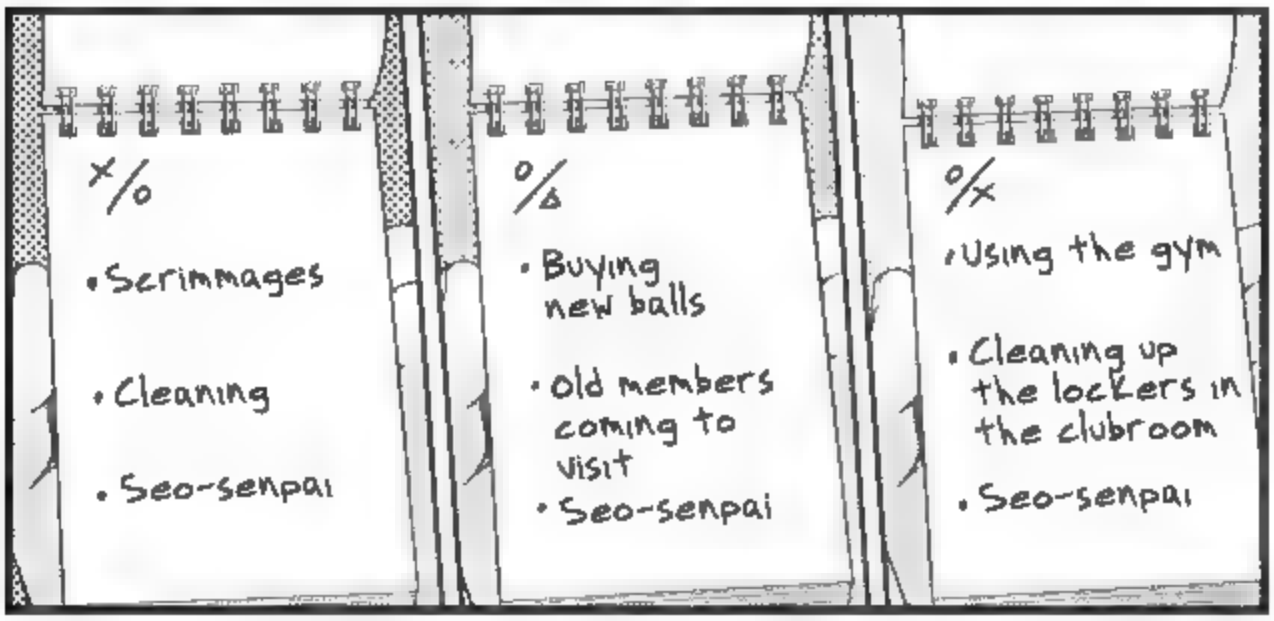
YOU CAN JUST WATCH, MIKO-SHIBA.
NOW, NOW.
STOP !!!
HUH !?
...SO, LET'S TRY DOING A PROPER ROUND OF KOKKURI-SAN, MAYU!
IT'LL JUST BE THE TWO OF US PLAYING.
YOU'RE GONNA GET CURSED!!!
CHI (TICK)
HEY, LET ME IN ON IT TOO.
I'LL END THIS.

THAT MEANS YOU'RE POSSESSED BY A FOX SPIRIT, DOESN'T IT, MIKOTO-SAN?
WOW...!! IT'S FLYING ALL AROUND NOW THAT MIKOSHIBA'S PLAYING...!!
ZUZU (SLIDE)
ZUZUZU
.....

GOING HOME
GEKOKU
[ISSUE 66]

OHHH?
WHAT DO YOU GUYS TALK ABOUT...
...IN A MEETING?
I'LL EAT THERE.
WE HAVE A BASKET-BALL TEAM MEETING TODAY.
HUH? WAKA-MATSU, WHAT ABOUT LUNCH?

OH!
YOU KEEP NOTES?
LEMME SEE!
HMMM. IT'S PRETTY DIFFERENT EVERY TIME...


×/○
• Scrimmages
• Cleaning
• Seo-senpai
○/△
• Buying new balls
• Old members coming to visit
• Seo-senpai
○/×
• Using the gym
• Cleaning up the lockers in the clubroom
• Seo-senpai

NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY TALK ABOUT IT, THEY JUST CAN'T SOLVE THIS LAST ONE!!!
THIS LAST ONE!!!
SEE?
IT'S ALL SORTS OF THINGS, RIGHT?

THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S MEETING

THE MEETING

SO FINALLY, ABOUT SEO-SENPAI...

ANYONE HAVE ANY THOUGHTS?

I DO!

OKAY, ISHIDA.

ONE OF MY FRIENDS GOT HIMSELF A GIRL-FRIEND LATELY...

...AND AFTER THEY STARTED GOING OUT, SHE GOT ALL SWEET AND QUIET.

OH YEAH?

THAT'S A PHENOM-ENON WE CAN'T AFFORD TO OVER-LOOK!

MY BIG BRO USED TO BE A TROUBLE-MAKER ...

...BUT HE SETTLED DOWN ONCE HE STARTED COLLEGE.

OH YEAH?

THAT'S USEFUL.

THE MAD DOG NEXT DOOR BEHAVES WHEN YOU SPRAY IT WITH WATER.

OH YEAH ...?

AND IT'S STILL HOT OUT TOO.

About Seo

- Hopefully, she finds a boyfriend.
- I just want her to get to college soon.
- I really want a dog.

CAPTAIN!! LET'S TRY TO DO SOMETHING THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY WORK ONE OF THESE DAYS!!!

OKAY! THAT'S IT FOR TODAY!!!

BAN (SLAM)

WHY IS IT ALL JUST HOPES AND DREAMS!!?

HUH!?
DOES SEO-SENPAI EVEN HAVE SOME-ONE LIKE THAT!?
HEH...
... WAKA-MATSU.
YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT..
LET'S DO IT.
... OF ALL THESE ... GETTING HER A BOYFRIEND WOULD PROBABLY BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE ...

THEY'RE JUST GOING TO FORCE IT!!?
JUST GO OUT ALREADY!
AND THINGS'LL START GETTING ROMANTIC EVENTUALLY, WON'T THEY?
WHOO, WHOO!
YOU LOOK GOOD TOGETHER!
OBVIOUSLY, WE'RE JUST GONNA PICK A RANDOM SACRIFICE AND START CHEERING THEM ON!

UHooo
LOOKING FOR A POOR SAP...
HEY, WAKA.
WHATCHA DOING?
きょろ
(KYORO (GLANCE))
... THEY SAID THAT ...
...BUT WHO DID THEY ASK ...?
ANYWAY, WE'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO ALREADY GETS ON WELL WITH HER, SO YOU JUST PLAY ALONG!

URK!
YOU MEAN I'M THE POOR SAP!!?
!!!
(SWOOSH)
WHOO, WHOO!
YOU TWO REALLY GET ALONG, DON'T YOU!!?

WHY SHE'S RUNNING AWA

I MEAN, EVEN IF THEY DO THAT, SEO-SENPAI'S JUST GOING TO RUN WITH IT.

ST—

STOP IT!!!!

EEK!

KIRI (TWINGE) KIRI

WHOO, WHOO!

JUST GO OUT ALREADY !!!

!!?

ZA

ダッ

MAYBE... SHE DOESN'T LIKE BEING CAT-CALLED ...?

SHE RAN AWAY...?

ざわ… ZAWA (MURMUR)

HUH ...?

WHAT JUST HAP-PENED ...?

...DON'T TELL ME SHE...

SHE'S NOT A WILD ANIMAL, YOU KNOW.

SENPAI, THAT'S A BIT MUCH.

COME UP WITH SOME MORE HUMAN REASON!!!

WHOO, WHOO!

EVERYONE START HOOTING AT HER!!!

FOR REAL !!?

WHOO!

WHOO, WHOO!

SO SHE HATES THIS NOISE !!?

HMM.

...SHE'D BE ALL ABOUT HOLLERING AT SOMEONE ELSE'S LOVE...

BUT...

IT'S GOTTA BE *THAT!*

...SO THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I JUST GET SO EMBARRASSED WHEN IT'S ABOUT ME...!!

KAAA (BLUSH)

EMBAR-RASSED ...!?

SHE GETS ALL EMBAR-RASSED ...

MAYBE SHE'S REALLY NOT GOOD WITH LOVE WHEN IT COMES TO HER-SELF?

KYAA! I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED~!!

RUNS AWAY ...?

...WAIT A MIN-UTE.

THAT JUST DOESN'T MESH WITH THE SEO-SENPAI IN MY HEAD...

AND THAT'S ...

...WHY SHE RUNS AWAY?

STOP IT!

NAO-CHAN ♡ SAID SHE LIKES ♡ YOU, TAKKUN!

COME ON! LET'S PLAY BASEBALL!

OH!!! YEAH!!! NOW IT FITS!!!

THAT'S HER!!!

HMM?

BUT ISN'T IT JUST LIKE WHAT A GRADE SCHOOL BOY WOULD DO?

HUH !?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
...AND SO...
...NOW IS THE TIME FOR REVENGE ...
... WAKA-MATSU.

I GET IT!!!
YOU'RE SO BAD, SEN-PAI!!!
LET'S GET RIGHT TO IT!
IF SHE HAS A PROBLEM WITH ROMANTIC STUFF...
...THEN, WAKA-MATSU, IF YOU MAKE A PASS AT HER...

PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME!!!
I... ...REALLY LIKE YOU, SEO-SENPAI!!!

I DEFINITELY DON'T WANT TO DECLARE MY LOVE FOR HER.
...GIVE ME SOME EXAMPLES ... THEN ...
AND YOU HAVE TO JAZZ UP THAT DECLARATION A LITTLE MORE. GET A GRIP.
IT'S BORING
... ...IS GOING TO HURT ME TOO... THIS ...
"I REALLY LIKE YOU"? WHAT THE HELL...?

OH.
I LIKE YOU. GO OUT WITH ME.
SEO-SEN-PAI.
MORNING!
YO!
WAKA!
...I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO GET MUCH OUT OF TEASING HER...
...IN THE END, EVEN THOUGH I DID PRACTICE IT...
I-LIKE YOU!
...SO I'LL CALL IT QUITS.
MOM!
DAD!

WAIT!
AAAGH!!!
OH NO!
IT JUST KIND OF SLIPPED OUT AFTER ALL THAT DUMB PRACTICING YESTERDAY!
.....
.....
C—

C-
C-
CALM C—
DOWN, WAKA.
WELL...
UH...
YEAH.
...YEAH, THAT.
MODORO (PANICKED)
もどろ
SHIDORO (FLUSTERED)
しどろ

IT WASN'T THAT BAD OF A RETURN.
SOWA (TWINGE)
そわ

...THEN THAT MEANS ...!!
ACK!
JIRI
JIRI (INCH)
JIRI
SHE REALLY DOESN'T LIKE THIS SORT OF THING...
WAH!
SEN-PAI !!!
BIKU (FLINCH)
WHAT!?
BA (WHAP)
YOUR EYES ARE LIKE THE STARRY SKY
YOUR HAIR IS LIKE FINE SILK...
SHE REALLY WOULDN'T LIKE SEDUC-TION!!!
KILLING HER WITH PRAISE

UMM... YOUR ... UH, YOUR...
M— MY...?
OKAY, GET EVEN MORE UN-COMFORT-ABLE!!!
I... ... THINK YOUR ...!
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING TO PRAISE !!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO ...!!?
O— OH...
?
THANKS...?
...IS REALLY NICE.
...I THINK HOW ENER-GETIC YOU ARE...

OH!
SEN-PAI!
TSUN
DA (DASH)
...SEE YA!!!
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT...

...YOU JERKED ME AROUND !!!
I'M GONNA GET YOU BACK FOR ALL THOSE TIMES...
I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY, SEO-SENPAI ...!!!

SEO ALREADY LEFT, YOU KNOW.
SEO'S NOT COMING TODAY.
OH?
OH?
YU-ZUKI'S GONE.
BUT SHE WAS JUST HERE!
IT REALLY FEELS LIKE YOU'RE BEING JERKED AROUND, YOU KNOW.
GET A GRIP.
I WANT TO TELL HER I LIKE HER—!!!
BUT I WANT TO SEE HER SO BADLY ...!!!

WAAAH!
NOZAKI
...
...
SENPAI
~~~!
THERE, THERE.
OH WELL.
IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE FINALLY GOING TO GET A RARE CHANCE TO MAKE LIFE ROUGH FOR SEO ...
...SO IT'S TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T FIND HER.

YOU TWO REALLY DO GET ALONG, DON'T YOU?
AND I ALREADY GOT ADVANCE TICKETS...
...BUT WE MADE PLANS TO GO TO THE MOVIES THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.
IT'S NOT GONNA WORK LIKE THIS.
ALSO, THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...

...I JUST HOPE SHE DOESN'T GET MAD...
WELL ...
DO YOU THINK I'M OKAY TELLING HER...
...IT WAS ALL JUST A JOKE?

THE NEXT DAY
WHAT HAPPENED!? SHE DID GET MAD!?
SHE WENT BACK TO NORMAL AND GOT REALLY WORKED UP...
NO...
IT'S STILL THE SAME EITHER WAY !!!
WAHOOOO!!!
~~~

THAT DAY

AHHH!! THAT MOVIE WAS REALLY GOOD, HUH, WAKA!?

ESPE-CIALLY ... ...WHEN THAT SMALL-FRY GUY GOT ALL CHOMPED UP...

...AND HIS GUTS —!

I LIKE YOU, SEO-SENPAI.

BYUWA (ZOOM)

...THAT WAS ALL... ...A JOKE.

OH!

HEH! HEH! HEH!

DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!

ZAKA (THUD) ZAKA ZAKA

.....

HUH WHAT!?

...I REALLY LIKE THAT ABOUT YOU.

HE FOUND ONE THING THAT HE LIKES.

A SERIOUS CONCERN

HMM, HMM...

I'VE FIGURED OUT SENPAI'S WEAK-NESS, BUT I DON'T REALLY WANT ANYONE ELSE TO FIND OUT ...

BUT NOT TELLING THE GUYS WOULD BE...

UGH ...

WHAT AM I SUP-POSED TO SAY TO THE TEAM ...?

OKAY, LET'S GET THE MEETING START-ED!

I'M EATING LUNCH WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND TODAY ...

...SO LET'S MAKE THIS QUICK.

OKAY, THEN... ...FIRST UP IS OUR NEXT MATCH...

GOOD JOB!!

THAT'S ALL!!

GO FOR IT!!

YEAH! LET'S KEEP GOING WITH THE WAKAMATSU THING!

UMM...

OKAY, AND FINALLY ... ...ABOUT SEO!

WHOO!!!

ARE YOU GETTING ALL MUSHY NOW!?

WHAT!?

HUUUH!?

GATA

GATA (CLATTER)

...SO IN THE END, THE PERSON THINKING THE MOST ABOUT SEO-SENPAI ... ...IS ME, I GUESS ...

HE COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING GOOD ABOUT HER, SO HE DECIDED TO GO WITH THE "LIKE" THING

EEK!
I REALLY LIKE YOU!!
I LIKE YOU, SEN-PAI!
I KNEW THAT YOU HAD A THING FOR ME FOR A WHILE NOW...
...BUT IS THIS DIFFER-ENT...?
IT'S DIFFER-ENT.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT YOU LIKED HOW KIND AND RELI-ABLE...
...AND PERFECT A SENPAI I AM...
THAT'S THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT.
...UM. YOU'RE SUCH A KIND, RELIABLE, PERFECT SENPAI...
EEEEK!!
STOP IT!!! YOU'RE REALLY SMOOTH ... ...AREN'T YOU!?

[ISSUE 67]

HUH? NOZAKI'S SMILING WHILE HE WORKS ON HIS DRAFT?
IS IT A GAG STORY?
HMM?
KARI (SKRITCH)
KARI
KARI
.....
HEH HEH.

...A BULLYING SCENE!!!
IT'S NO USE CALLING FOR SUZUKI-KUN.
AH HA HA!
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, MAMIKO!
COME WITH US NOW...
ZA (CROWD)
AGH!
THAT'S ...
... WHOA!

WHEN I THINK ABOUT WHAT MAMIKO'S THINKING DURING THIS...
HEH HEH HEH! ... NAH.
HUH!? WHAT !? ARE YOU DRAWING THIS FROM THAT SORT OF ANGLE!?
ZUZA (SCOOT)

STOP DRAWING IT FROM THAT POINT OF VIEW!
THOUGH THIS SORT OF THING DOES HAPPEN A LOT.
I'M SO BORED...
THIS AGAIN?
NO! STOP !!!
KYAAA!
...IT'S GOT TO BE SOME-THING LIKE...

A FRIGHTENING SUMMON

MIKO-SHIBA-KUN.
...HE SAID THAT...
...BUT WHAT IS HE GONNA DO...?
BUT IS GETTING CALLED OUT LIKE THAT EVEN ALL THAT SCARY IN THE FIRST PLACE?
HELP ME OUT A LITTLE, OKAY?

...IT'S NOT SCARY AT ALL WHEN A GIRL CALLS OUT A GUY, NOZAKI !!!
BUT USU-ALLY ...
YOU DUMBASS!!
THIS IS...
I'M GETTING CALLED OUT BY THIRD-YEARS!?
!!!
CAN YOU COME WITH US FOR A BIT?

OH!
I KNOW WHERE WE CAN PUT HIM!
OHHH!
THEN, LET'S GO HAVE SOME FUN, MIKOSHIBA-KUN!
...WE CAN DO WHAT-EVER WE WANT?
AND THEN ...
UMM...
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO CALL HIM OUT AND LOCK HIM UP, RIGHT?

I SHOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND MY BULLYING REPERTOIRE!

I KNOW!

NAH ... I WOULDN'T REALLY CALL THAT A SUMMONS ...

THAT HELPS.

SO I GUESS MAMIKO WAS LACKING THAT DESPERATION I SAW JUST NOW...

2-G

WAS THAT OKAY?

OH, MIKOSHIBA. NOZAKI WAS JUST DOODLING ALL OVER YOUR NOTEBOOK.

HUH !? DOODLING!?

HE DIDN'T JUST SCRIBBLE ALL OVER IT, DID HE...!?

DUMB-ASS!

IDIOT!

NO-ZAKI !!!

Oh no...♡ I have a date today.

I should take a bite!

Sakiko Yumeka

NO-ZAKI !!!

That picture on the third page turned out really good, so let me copy it later, okay?

BUL-LIED?
HMMM, WELL...
YOU'RE POPULAR, RIGHT?
COME TO THINK OF IT ...
...YOU'VE NEVER BEEN BULLIED, HAVE YOU?

A CLOSED ROOM !?
I MANAGED TO MAKE IT AWAY BEFORE I GOT DRAGGED INTO A CLOSED ROOM.
WHAT THE HELL!?
HUH !?
I WAS ALMOST FORCED TO GO SOMEWHERE AGAINST MY WILL THIS ONE TIME...

HUUUH!?
HE WAS THERE TOO...
DOK!
DOK! (BADUM)
D—
DID YOU TELL HORI-SENPAI ABOUT IT...?
HEH...
DRAGGED IN FORCED CLOSED ROOM

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT KARAOKE?
THAT'S REALLY MISLEADING!
IT'S SO HARD TO GET BY IN THIS DAY AND AGE IF YOU'RE TONE DEAF...
GEEZ ...

FOR NOW, SHE'S IN

HE SAYS HE'S EXPERIMENTING.

NOZAKI'S BEEN HARASSING ME SINCE THIS MORNING ...

HUH!?

MIKO-RIN...

...WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU LOOK KINDA TIRED.

HM?

OH...

LUCKY!!

YOU'VE BEEN WITH NOZAKI-KUN ALL DAY!?

HEY! I TOLD YOU HE WAS HARASSING ME!

DON'T JUST LATCH ON TO THE FIRST PART!

HUH?

YOU WANT TO GET IN ON THIS TOO, SAKURA?

...WE'RE EXPERIMENTING WITH BULLYING, YOU KNOW.

BUT ...

BULLYING...!

YEAH, EVEN SAKURA WOULD HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT.

HE'S SO CUTE WHEN HE SAYS "BULLYING" ...

SERIOUSLY, LISTEN TO WHAT HE'S SAYING!

ANY-WAY...
...I TRIED PUTTING A FAKE LOVE LETTER IN THERE.
OH. TO TRICK HER, HUH ...?
THAT'S PRETTY COMMON.

HEY. SHE LOOKS REALLY HAPPY...
HMM... IT'S HARD TO FOOL HER...

HA HA HA HA HA HA!
...WAS WATCHING YOU PANIC FROM THE SHADOWS AND LAUGHING AT YOU!
I...
DID YOU TAKE THAT LETTER SERI-OUSLY?
HA HA HA HA HA!

DON'T GET HAPPY ABOUT HIM WATCHING YOU!!!
TERE
TERE (BASHFUL)
PA (PAT)
SASA (FWOOSH)

IT'S PRETTY OLD-FASHIONED, BUT HOW ABOUT PUTTING TACKS IN HER INDOOR SHOES?
HUH!?
YOU'RE GONNA DO IT!?
YEAH.

BUT TACKS ARE DANGEROUS 'COS THEY COULD STAB HER...
...SO I'LL GO WITH CANDIES INSTEAD.
MAYBE I SHOULD GO WITH A LOT OF STRAWBERRY ONES.
BUT THAT'S JUST A FANCY GIFT!
DON'T PUT A CUTE LITTLE CLOTH DOWN!

BE-SIDES ...WHAT SORT OF IDIOT WOULD STEP ON SUCH AN OBVIOUS THING ANY-WAY?
BAKI (CRUNCH)
HMM?
"CRUNCH"?

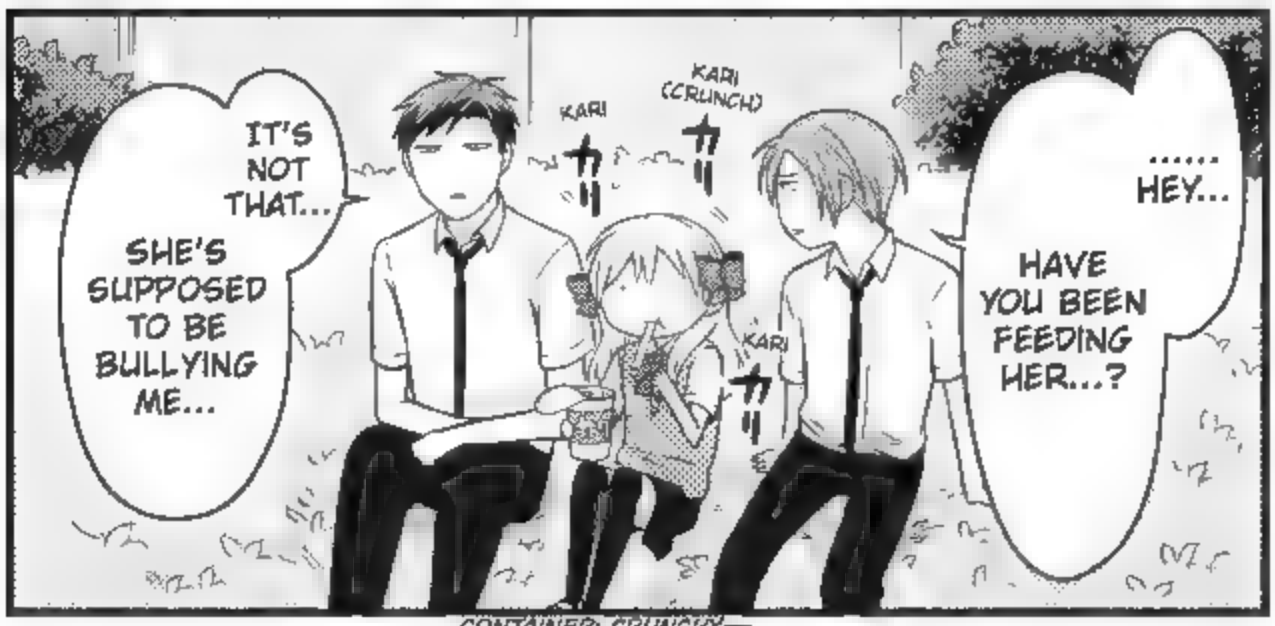
THEY WERE CRUSHED TO BITS.
UM ...
THE CAN-DIES ...!!
UH ...
AH ...

A FRIEND'S BETRAYAL

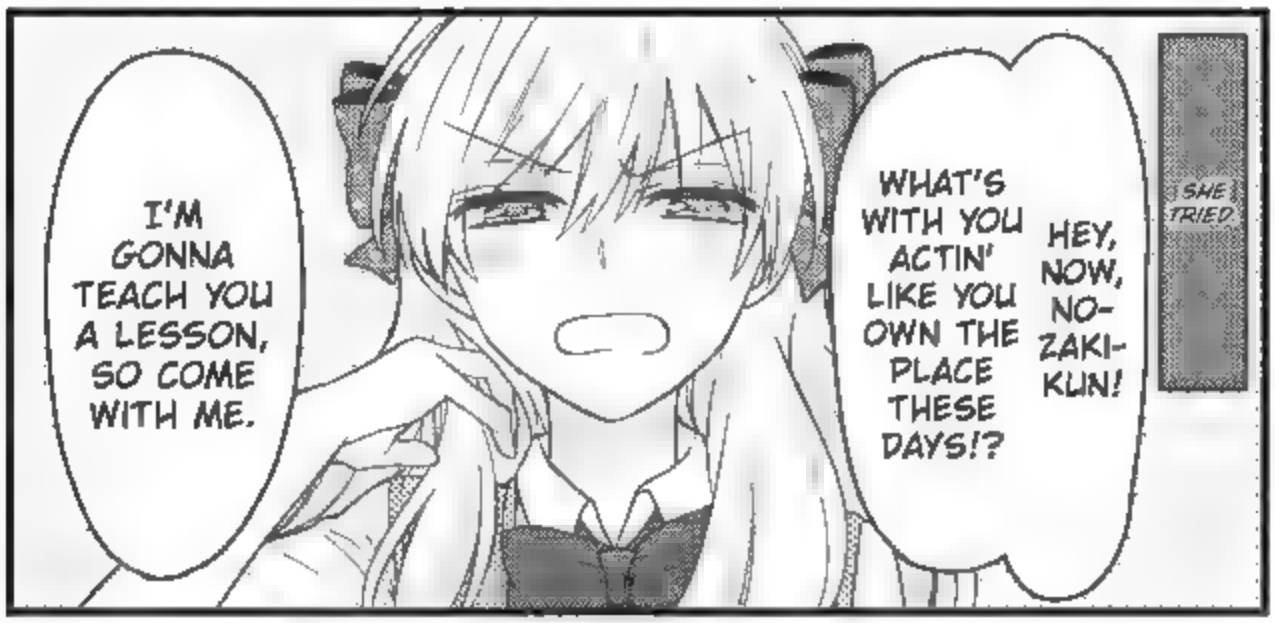
WHAAA—?
...I GUESS NO ONE'LL CATCH YOU IF YOU DO IT IN HER EMPTY CLASS-ROOM ...
WELL ...
YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
SO LET'S SEE...
MAYBE STEALING HER THINGS ...?
LET'S TRY IT.
AND NOW...
A FRIEND'S BETRAYAL IS TOUGH.

WHAAAT?
YOU SHOULD BE ON YOUR GUARD.
COME ON!
SAKURA, I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT...
...SOMEONE YOU CONSIDER A FRIEND...IS A COMPLETE TRAITOR.

YOU KNOW, I JUST DON'T SEEM TO BE CUT OUT FOR THIS...
SAKU-RA...
...WILL YOU SWITCH PLACES WITH ME?
Y—
YOU WANT...
...ME TO BE THE BULLY !?
I GUESS I CAN TRY!!



CONTAINER: CRUNCHY—


I'M GONNA TEACH YOU A LESSON, SO COME WITH ME.
WHAT'S WITH YOU ACTIN' LIKE YOU OWN THE PLACE THESE DAYS!?
HEY, NOW, NO-ZAKI-KUN!
SHE TRIED.

OH, MIKO-RI—
MIKO-SHIBAA!
WHY IS SHE TALKING LIKE A PUNK ...?
わく WAKU
I KIND OF FEEL LIKE A HERO-INE...
わく WAKU (EXCITED)

...NO.
THAT'S NOT—
HUH WHY !? SHOULD I—?
HRN !?
YOU TALKIN' BACK TO ME!?
GO GET THE KEY TO THE GYM STORAGE ROOM! ON THE DOUBLE!

HE STOLE THE HEROINE ROLE!!!
HEH HEH HEH HEH
HA HA HA HA HA!
NO ONE'S GONNA COME RESCUE YOU, YA KNOW!!
WHAT AN IDIOT !!!
OHH?
YOU'RE SCARED !?

...SO, WELL, BULLYING WAS PRETTY HARD.

HUH ...

IN OTHER WORDS ... ...YOU DIDN'T GET MUCH OF ANYTHING OUT OF IT.

CAN I READ YOUR DRAFT NOW?

THAT ISN'T TRUE ...

I REALIZED SOMETHING THANKS TO ALL THAT.

WHEN SOMEONE BULLIES ANOTHER PERSON, THEY'RE THINKING ABOUT THAT INDIVIDUAL REALLY ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

SO BASICALLY ...

...THIS IS HOW THEY REALLY FEEL!!!

I'M GOING TO CRUSH MAMIKO!

THAT HATEFUL BACK THAT I CAN ALWAYS SEE..

DID I WANT TO BE HER ?

...NO, THAT'S NOT IT.

I REALLY WANTED HER TO LOOK AT ME WITH THAT STRAIGHTFORWARD, EVER-PURE GAZE...

SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S DIFFERENT.

SHE'S ALWAYS IN THE LIGHT.

WAIT A MINUTE.

THIS IS ONLY TEN PAGES LONG.

WHAT ARE YOU DIVING INTO A SIDE CHARACTER'S THOUGHTS FOR?

IT'S ALL RIGHT!

SUZUKI FINISHES IT UP IN JUST THREE PANELS!

I CAME TO SAVE YOU.

SUZUKI-KUN...

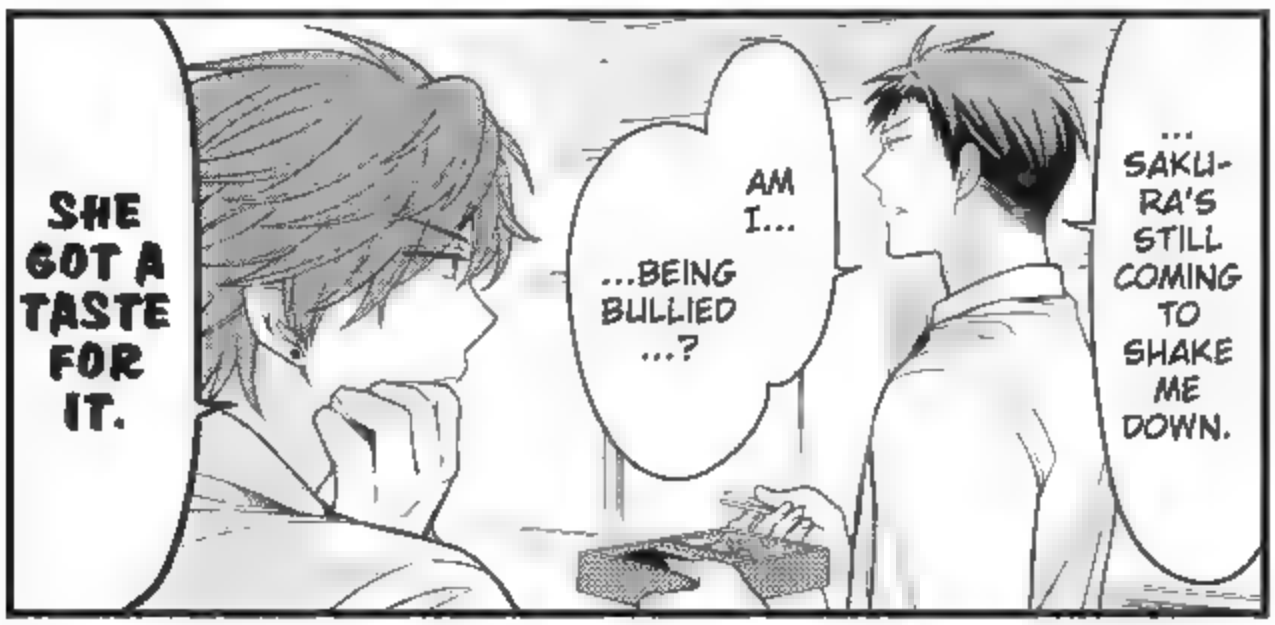
NOW, LET'S GO BACK !!

HAPPY!!

MAMIKO!

SUZUKI SEEMS REALLY SHALLOW WHEN YOU SEE HIM LIKE THIS.

A DELICIOUS THOUGHT



SO UNTRUSTWORTHY IT'S SHOCKING

Come to the back lot after school.
I know your secret.
...BUT I NEVER DID USE THEM.
I WROTE UP SOME LETTERS FOR CALLING SOMEONE OUT...
...GUESS YOU'RE JUST GONNA HAVE TO THROW THEM OUT.
WELL ...
MAKE SURE YOU TEAR 'EM UP NICE AND SMALL FIRST.
LEAVE THIS TASK... TO ME!!!
BA (WHAP)
HAH?

[ISSUE 68]

MIKO-SHIBA! I HAVE PIC-TURES FROM SUM-MER VACA-TION!
WANT SOME?
BIKU! (FLINCH)
LIKE THE ONES WITH AN EXTRA ARM OR LEG~!
THERE COULD BE SOME GHOST PICS IN THERE!
HA!
DON (THUD)
STOP IT.
HA HA HA HA HA!

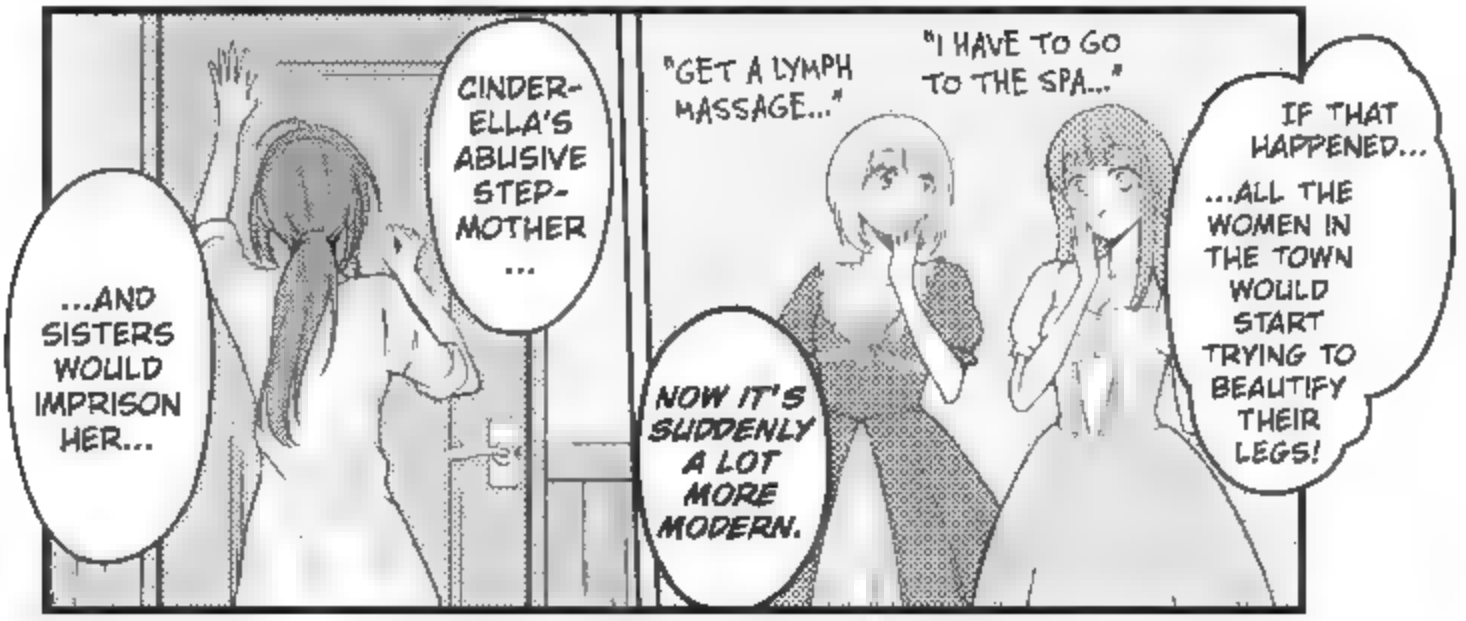
OH! SORR —!
.....
JI (STARE)
.....? UM... SENPAI ...?

HEY ... THESE LEGS ...
HUH? LET'S SEE.
!!!
DO (THUMP)
DON'T TELL ME THERE REALLY IS ONE ...!!?
HEY. MIKO-SHIBA.
THE NUMBERS DON'T ADD UP THERE'S A CHILD'S LEG IN THERE
ZAWA
WHOSE ARE THOSE?
HUH ...?
ZAWA (CHATTER)

WHOSE LEGS ARE THESE?
THEY'RE TOTALLY MY TYPE!!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT REAL LEGS!!?

HAPPY ENDING ♡

I DON'T WANT SOME PRINCE WHO'S JUST AFTER A BODY LIKE THAT!
NO "OH MY..."
HIS HIGHNESS IS LOOKING FOR THESE BEAUTIFUL LEGS.
OH MY...
HEH HEH HEH
ISN'T IT KIND OF...
...LIKE CINDERELLA?


...AND SISTERS WOULD IMPRISON HER...
CINDERELLA'S ABUSIVE STEPMOTHER ...
"GET A LYMPH MASSAGE..."
"I HAVE TO GO TO THE SPA..."
NOW IT'S SUDDENLY A LOT MORE MODERN.
IF THAT HAPPENED...
...ALL THE WOMEN IN THE TOWN WOULD START TRYING TO BEAUTIFY THEIR LEGS!

CINDERELLA SOUNDS LIKE SHE HAS IT REALLY GOOD!
"GO AHEAD AND LAZE AROUND, CINDERELLA."
"HAVE SOME SUGARY JUICE, CINDERELLA."
"HERE'S SOME MEAT, CINDERELLA."
...AND TRY TO FATTEN HER UP ...!!!

WELL...
...YEAH, BUT...
HUH!?
OH, UH...
SHE KNOWS A LOT ABOUT THE GIRLS.
BUT IN THIS SITUATION...
...SHOULDN'T YOU JUST ASK KASHIMA?

I DON'T THINK SHE'D REALLY LIKE THAT.
PLAYING MATCH-MAKER BETWEEN A SENPAI SHE'S CLOSE TO AND SOME OTHER GIRL...
THIS IS HORI-SENPAI WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...

THOSE ARE KASHIMA-KUN'S LEGS!!
OH!
PYOKO (POP)
ぴょーっ
...I'M REALLY UP CLOSE AND PER-SONAL WITH HER, SO...
YOU KNOW, AS HER BEST FRIEND ...

GIVE HIM A BREAK.
SA-KURA!
YOU KNOW, MIKORIN, SHE BOUGHT THEM WHEN YOU TWO WERE SHOPPING TOGETH-ER.
SA-KURA.
I REMEMBER THEM 'COS THEY WERE DIFFERENT!
THESE SHORTS...
...ARE THE ONES SHE WAS WEARING THE OTHER DAY!

WE DEFINITELY HAVE TO GO TELL HER ABOUT THIS!!!

WAAAAAAH!

WHAAAT!? HORI-SENPAI LIKES KASHIMA-KUN'S LEGS ...!?

WHAAAT!?

PAAAN CTA-DAA

ぱーーーん

HORI-SENPAI SAID HE LIKES YOUR LEGS!!!

KASHIMA-KUUUN!!!

USU-ALLY...

...YOU'D WIN OVER A GUY'S LEGS, WOULDN'T YOU!!?

GET A GRIP!!!

YOU MEAN... MORE THAN MIKO-SHI-BA'S ...!?

WHY ARE NOZAKI'S LEGS A GRADE ABOVE MINE!!?

SCREW THAT!!!

THEN ...

...MORE THAN NO-ZAKI'S TOO ...!?

SO FROM NOW ON, YOU CAN USE YOUR LEGS AS A WEAPON AGAINST HIM!

LEGS... LEGS, HUH...?

MY BAD ... I'M JUST A LITTLE SHOOK UP...

NO ONE TOLD YOU TO GET INTO HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT!

THAT'S JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH.

...IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT TO KICK SENPAI OR ANY-THING.

NO ...

BUN

BUN (WAVE)

A WEAPON ...!?

SFX: FURA (STAGGER) FURA

HEH-HEH-HEH...

I SEE ...!

NOT LIKE THAT... MORE LIKE YOU CAN GET HIS ATTENTION!

SO YOU'RE SAYING ...

...I DRAW HIS ATTEN-TION LIKE THIS...

C'MON! WHY ARE YOU ATTACK-ING HIM!?

YOU LET DOWN...

...YOUR GUARD!!!

...AND THEN DO THIS ...!?

SHE'S PROBABLY JUST TOO CLOSE, SO HE DIDN'T NOTICE.
AH HA HA!
...BUT IF THEY'RE REALLY WHAT HE WANTS ...
...THEN WHY DIDN'T HE REALIZE IT SOONER?
WHY?
I'M OFF!!
...BUT I GUESS I JUST HAVE TO GO SHOW HIM MY LEGS!
WELL, I CAN'T SAY I GET IT...

WHAT? IT'S JUST THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
DID YOU SPRAIN SOMETHING?
?
HUH?
BA (WHIP)
SEN-PAAAI !!!
TAKE A LOOK AT MY LEG!!!

NEVER MIND THAT. ARE YOUR EYES A BIT RED?
THEY'RE BLOOD-SHOT.
? ? ?
HUH ...?
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
THAT FACE GIVES YOU AWAY.
HEY.
GIVE ME YOUR OPINION...
NOT LIKE THAT! COME ON, TAKE A CLOSER LOOK.

...HE ONLY SEES HER FACE !!!
NOOOO ...!!
WHEN IT COMES TO KASHIMA-KUN...
OHH, I WAS UP KINDA LATE LAST NIGHT...

I KNOW!! CAN'T SHE JUST CHANGE HER CLOTHES TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THEM!?
HE'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LOOK!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!
OH NO...!!! HER FACE IS OVER-SHADOW-ING HER LEGS ...!!!

HEY, IT'S GONNA WRIN-KLE.
LET ME FIX IT.
じゃーん
JAAAN (TA-DAA)
SENPAI!
I'M WEAR-ING A MINI-SKIRT!

DON'T YOU THINK... ...THOSE WOULD LOOK GOOD WITH KNEE-HIGH BOOTS?
JUST WAIT A MINUTE.
じゃーん!
JAAAN
SEN-PAI!
I'M WEARING SUPER-SHORT SHORTS !!!

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU GO THERE FOR?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I'M BACK.

ADVICE FROM A PRO

NOZAKI !!! NOW WHAT DO WE DO!!?

IT'S NOT GOING HOW WE WANT!!!

HMM?

ME?

WE JUST KIND OF NEED ...!!

SOME SORT OF IDEA THAT WILL MOVE THINGS FOR-WARD A LITTLE MORE ...!!!

PLEASE!!!?

...LET'S SEE. TO START OFF...

...KASHIMA JUST ISN'T SUITED TO BEING A HEROINE, SO WHAT IF WE CHANGE HER LIKE THIS?

EVERY-ONE ALWAYS SAYS I'M SO COOL...

...BUT I ACTUALLY WANT TO BE SEEN MORE AS A GIRL...

A PERSON-ALITY OVER-HAUL!!?

AND WE SHOULD MAKE HORI-SENPAI MORE FORGIVING TO MAKE HIM MORE LIKE A SENPAI...

...AND MAKE HIM OVER FIVE FOOT ELEVEN.

GIRLS LIKE TALL GUYS.

SAY WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.

EVERY CLUB MEMBER IS MY TREA SURE...

BIG IN SO MANY WAYS!!!

NOW THESE TWO...

...WILL EVENTUALLY START TO BECOME AWARE OF EACH OTHER...

YOU KNOW ..

..YOU'RE A PROPER GIRL.

GO AHEAD AND WEAR A MINI SKIRT.

I'M SURE YOU'LL LOOK GREAT.

DOKIN BADUMO

SENPAI ...!!!

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE !!?

Y—
YEAH.
HE DID...
...SAID THAT MY LEGS WERE HIS TYPE, DIDN'T HE?
HORI-SEN-PAI...
HUH ...?
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE.

MUST BE NICE TO HAVE LEGS LIKE TH S...
...HE'S JEALOUS OF MY LEGS ...!!?
THAT MEANS ...
I ALMOST FORGOT THAT SENPAI WANTS TO BE A HEROINE ...!!!
WHAT AM I DOING ...!!?

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU LOSING CONFI-DENCE FOR!!?
H—
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO AND HIDE THEM ...!!
I'M PUT-TING ON TIGHTS.
HUH !?
WHAT'S WRONG, KASHIMA-KUN!?

WAIT, THAT'S TOTALLY POSI-TIVE!
WHAT IS WITH THAT CONFIDENCE!?
I DON'T WANT TO TRICK HIM AS A JOKE...!!!
I CAN'T ...! MY LEGS ARE JUST TOO TEMPT-ING FOR SENPAI ...!!!

THE RIVALS

HEY...
ISN'T KASHIMA-KUN ACTING WEIRD TODAY?
OH?
SHE'S JUST AS REST-LESS AS USUAL...
YEAH, BUT...
...SHE'S BEEN TRYING TO DRAW ATTENTION TO HER LEGS...

HER LEGS...?
...COME TO THINK OF IT...
...I WAS TELLING MIKO-SHIBA ABOUT THE SORT OF LEGS I LIKE TODAY...
OHHH!
THAT HAS TO BE IT!!!

NOW KASHIMA-KUN'S ALL FIRED UP WITH A SENSE OF RIVALRY...
RIVAL-RY...?
WHY...?
OF COURSE SHE IS!
FOR KASHI-MA-KUN...
COME ON!

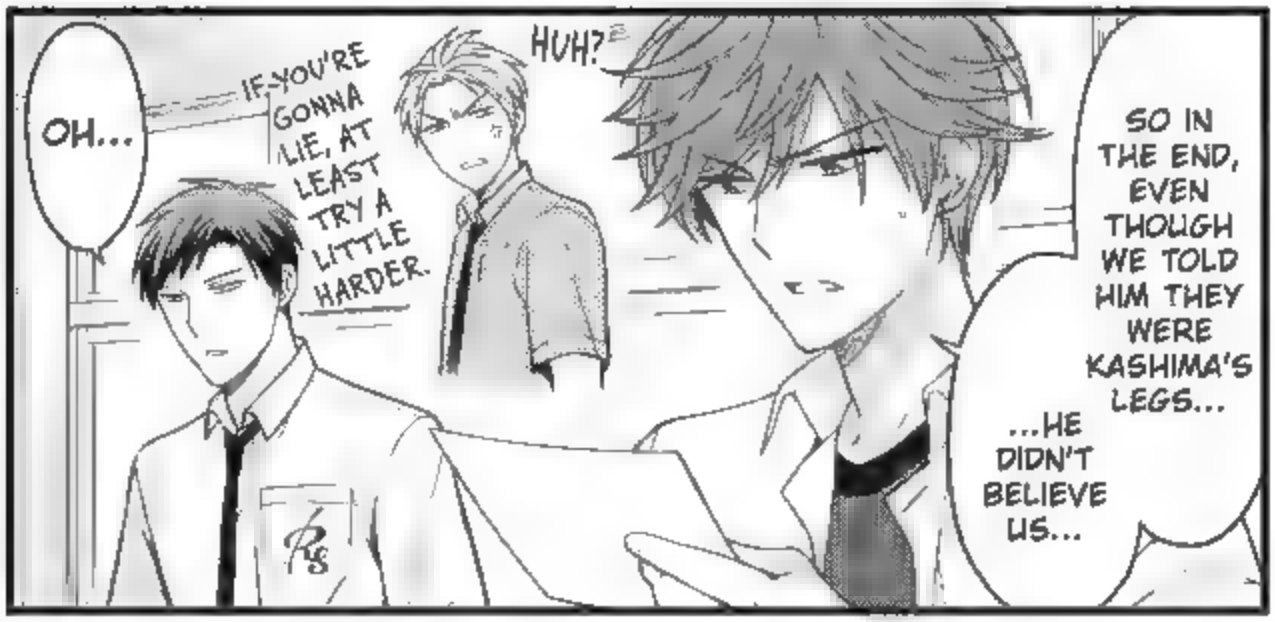
...NOT ONLY ARE NOZAKI-KUN AND WAKA-MATSU-KUN A COUPLE OF HER RIVALS...
THE ADORABLE KOUHA SIDE
...BUT NOW THERE'S A NEW RIVAL TOO ...!!!
THE AMAZING LEGS SIDE
THERE'S NOT A SINGLE REGULAR GIRL IN THERE!!!

OH!
HORI-SENPAI !!!
...YEAH, BUT...
TRY BEING A LITTLE NICER TO HER EVERY NOW AND THEN.

HUH?
IT'S HARD TO SAY, ISN'T IT...?
I GET IT.
SEN-PAI.
...ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER ...
OH.
UH... KASHI-MA...

DON'T GIVE UP. TRY TO GROW ANOTHER INCH... NO, EVEN ANOTHER QUARTER INCH!
I'M ROOT-ING FOR YOU.
YOU WANT LONG LEGS, DON'T YOU?
IT'S OKAY. YOU'RE STILL GROWING.

THE MOMENT HIS DREAM COMES TRUE


OH...
IF YOU'RE GONNA LIE, AT LEAST TRY A LITTLE HARDER.
HUH?
SO IN THE END, EVEN THOUGH WE TOLD HIM THEY WERE KASHIMA'S LEGS...
...HE DIDN'T BELIEVE US...

I THINK YOU'RE ONTO SOME-THING ...!!
THAT'LL DRAW HIS ATTENTION DOWN!!
...DON'T WE JUST HAVE TO HIDE IT!?
IF HER FACE OVER-SHAD-OWS HER LEGS ...
ざわ
ZAWA
ざわ
ZAWA (CHATTER)

[ISSUE 69]

HMMM. MY NEXT DEADLINE IS THIS DAY...

...SO THE ACTUAL DEADLINE SHOULD BE ABOUT HERE...

Deadline

HUH?

THE DEADLINE ISN'T THE VERY LATEST YOU CAN GET IT IN?

NAH. THERE'S WIGGLE ROOM BUILT IN AND ANOTHER SECRET DAY.

SECRET !?

HEH HEH HEH...

WE REALLY HAVE TWO MORE DAYS, BUT I'M NOT TELLING.

IF YOU ASK WHEN THE DEADLINE'S GETTING CLOSE, YOU CAN FIGURE OUT THE REAL DAY.

THEY LET IT SLIP, RIGHT!?

HEY, NOW. I KNOW YOU'RE HIDING IT.

C'MON, JUMP FOR ME!

STOP!! THIS IS IT... THIS IS ALL I HAVE !!!

CHARIN (JINGLE)

CHARIN

チャリン

チャリン

YOU KNOW, ONE TIME...

...I ASKED KEN-SAN MYSELF.

!!!

BOYON

ぼよん

BOYON (HOP)

ぼよん

HE SEEMS LIKE HE'D JUMP EASY !!!

AN EDITOR'S REACTION

BY THE WAY, WHEN IT REALLY GETS DOWN TO THE WIRE...

...I HEAR THE EDITORS SPEND THE NIGHT AT THE OFFICE.

THAT WAY, THEY CAN GET MOVING AS SOON AS THE MANU-SCRIPT'S READY.

A SLEEP-OVER? SOUNDS FUN!

NAH. GIVEN THE SITUATION, I DOUBT IT'S MUCH FUN AT ALL.

ALL YOU'RE DOING IS WAITING.

OH YEAH ...

I BET IF I TOLD AN EDITOR I THOUGHT IT SOUNDED FUN, THEY'D GET MAD.

THE EDITO-RIAL DEPT.

HUH? NOT GOING HOME, MIYAMAE-KUN?

OH. I'M GOING TO STAY AND WAIT FOR A CHAPTER.

OHHH!?

YOU MEAN... ...A SLEEP-OVER!?

SOUNDS FUN!!

.....

SO I'VE NEVER GOTTEN TO STAY OVER...

...HAVE EVER MISSED A DEAD-LINE!

OOH! YOU KNOW, NONE OF MY ARTISTS ...

WHAAAT?

OOTSUKI-SENSEI ALWAYS TURNED HER WORK IN TWO DAYS BEFORE THE DEAD-LINE.

ONE OF MY CURRENT ARTISTS, OOTSUKI-SAN, USED TO BE ONE OF YOURS...

HANG ON.

WAAAH!

Well, Maeno-san just doesn't get deadlines at all, so I was so worried that I turned it in early~!!

OO-TSUKI-SAN!?

BUT YOU'VE GOT IT TOGETHER, MIYAMAE-SAN!!!

DON'T TREAT PEOPLE LIKE THE SOURCE OF AN INFEC-TION!

YOU'RE THE POSTER CHILD FOR HOPELESSNESS.

THEY ALL TURN HOPELESS WHEN THEY'RE WITH YOU, DON'T THEY ...?

SO, GIVEN EVERYTHING, I'M GONNA STICK WITH YOU TONIGHT, MIYAMAE-KUN!
SLEEP-OVER!
SLEEP-OVER!
HUH !?
DON'T BE SILLY! GO HOME!!
NOW, NOW! CALM DOWN.

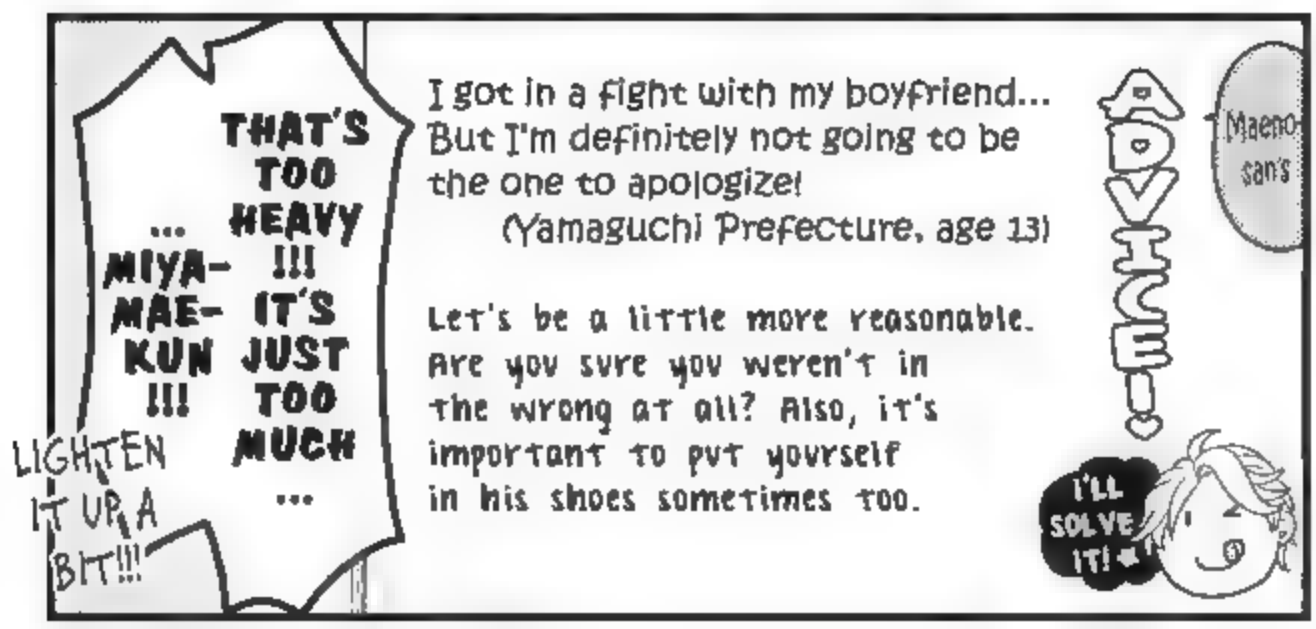
UMMM, SO UNTIL THE CHAPTER'S READY...
...WE JUST HAVE TO SIT AROUND AND WAIT, RIGHT?
YEAH, MORE OR LESS.
I USUALLY SPEND THE TIME WORKING, BUT...
...I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO TODAY

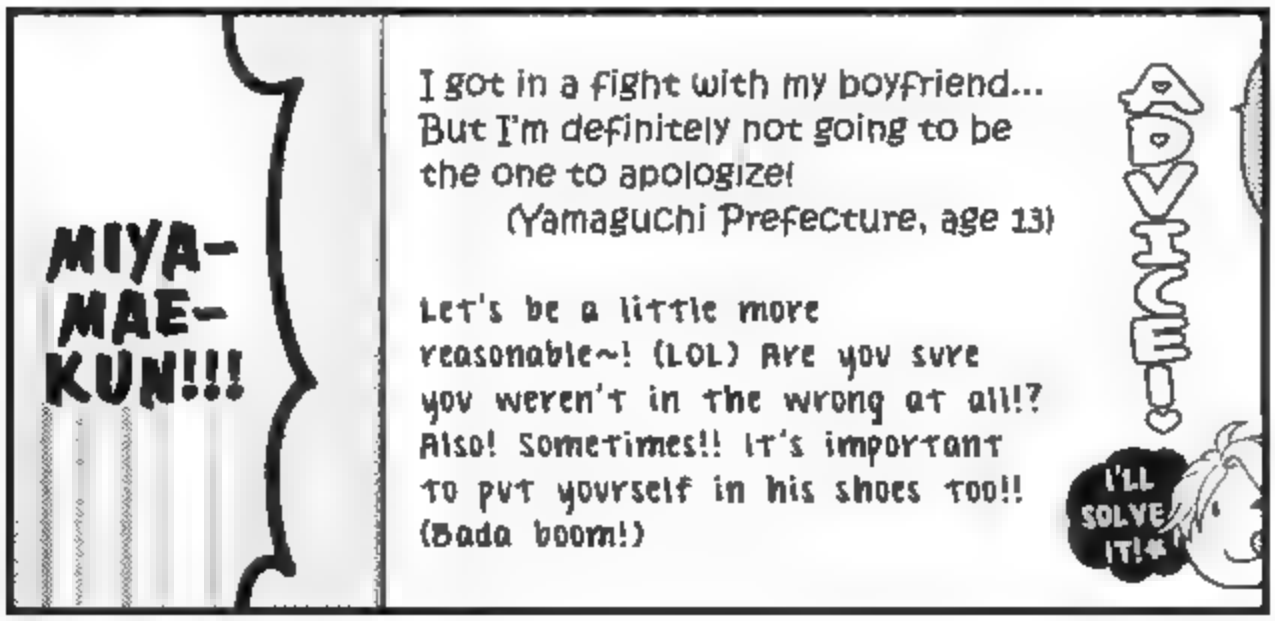
OOH!
GIMME A SEC! I'M PRETTY SURE I HAVE JUST THE THING RIGHT HERE...
A DECK OF CARDS OR SOME-THING...?
OH WELL. I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO TODAY, SO I GUESS I'LL PLAY ALONG...
GOSO
GOSO
GOSO (DIG)

HERE'S ALL THE WORK I'M BEHIND ON!
JAAAN (TA-DAA)
YOU JERK !!!

HMM.
...I'VE FALLEN INTO A BIT OF A RUT.
HAVING TO WRITE THIS STUFF EVERY MONTH ...
Hello☆It's Maeno san!! And Bunny! We've received lots of letters from all of you again this month!
Readers corner
Write a Romance!
HEY! THIS IS...
...THE COLUMN YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF!
YOU'VE GOT TO DO THIS!!

LOOK, HERE! THIS ADVICE COLUMN ... HERE YOU GO!
HUH!?
I KNOW! YOU DO IT, MIYA-MAE-KUN!


... MIYA-MAE-KUN !!!
THAT'S TOO HEAVY !!! IT'S JUST TOO MUCH ...
LIGHTEN IT UP A BIT!!!
I got in a fight with my boyfriend... But I'm definitely not going to be the one to apologize!
(Yamaguchi Prefecture, age 13)
Let's be a little more reasonable. Are you sure you weren't in the wrong at all? Also, it's important to put yourself in his shoes sometimes too.
Maeno san's
I'LL SOLVE IT!


MIYA-MAE-KUN!!!
I got in a fight with my boyfriend... But I'm definitely not going to be the one to apologize!
(Yamaguchi Prefecture, age 13)
Let's be a little more reasonable~! (LOL) Are you sure you weren't in the wrong at all!? Also! Sometimes!! It's important to put yourself in his shoes too!! (Bada boom!)
I'LL SOLVE IT!

YOU'RE SAYING THAT?

JUDGES
Sakiko Yumeno-sensei
YUMENO-SAN WAS A JUDGE THIS TIME AROUND.
...OH YEAH.
THEN I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THE COMMENTS FOR THE NEW-COMER'S AWARD...
FINE ...

COMMENTS:
SAKIKO YUMENO
ABOUT THE CHARACTERS
5/10 POINTS
IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT THE HERO'S ONLY DEFINING CHARACTERISTIC IS BEING "THE MOST HANDSOME BOY IN SCHOOL."
!!?

BOOK: LET'S FALL IN LOVE♡

ABOUT THE STORY
6/10 POINTS
IT'S A PLAIN, OLD SCHOOL ROMANCE WITH NO PARTICULAR TWIST TO SPEAK OF. YOU SHOULD TRY FOR A MORE ORIGINAL WORLDVIEW!
!!?

WHAA —!?

IT'S THAT TIME ALREADY!?

IT'S THREE, HUH ...?

MAYBE HE'S THE TYPE WHO CAN SUDDENLY FOCUS A LOT BETTER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT ...?

HUH? HE SUD-DENLY GOT ALL FIRED UP...?

KATA (CLACK)

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

YOU'RE UPDATING YOUR BLOG!!?

HELL NO!!!

BA (WHAP)

MIYA-MAE-KUN!

TAKE MY PICTURE!!!

WHEN YOU READ THROUGH THAT AGAIN TOMORROW, YOU'RE GONNA WANT TO DIE, YOU KNOW!!!

GO GET SOME SLEEP!!!

IT'S SO WEIRD!!

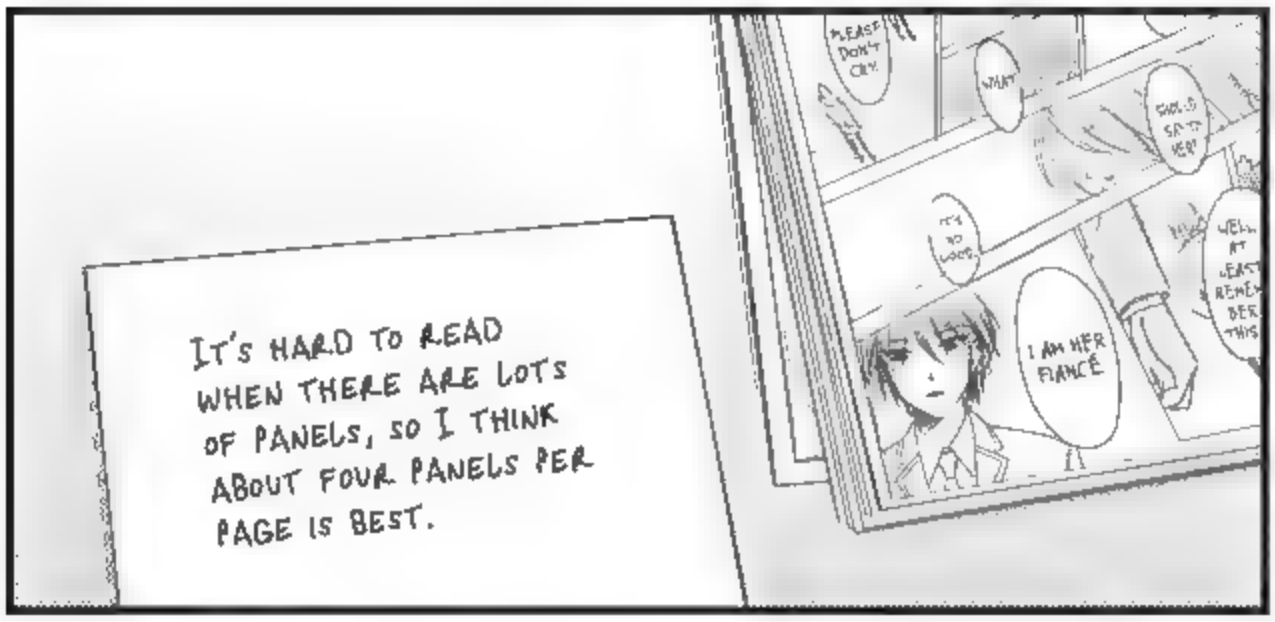
Pulling an all-nighter at work

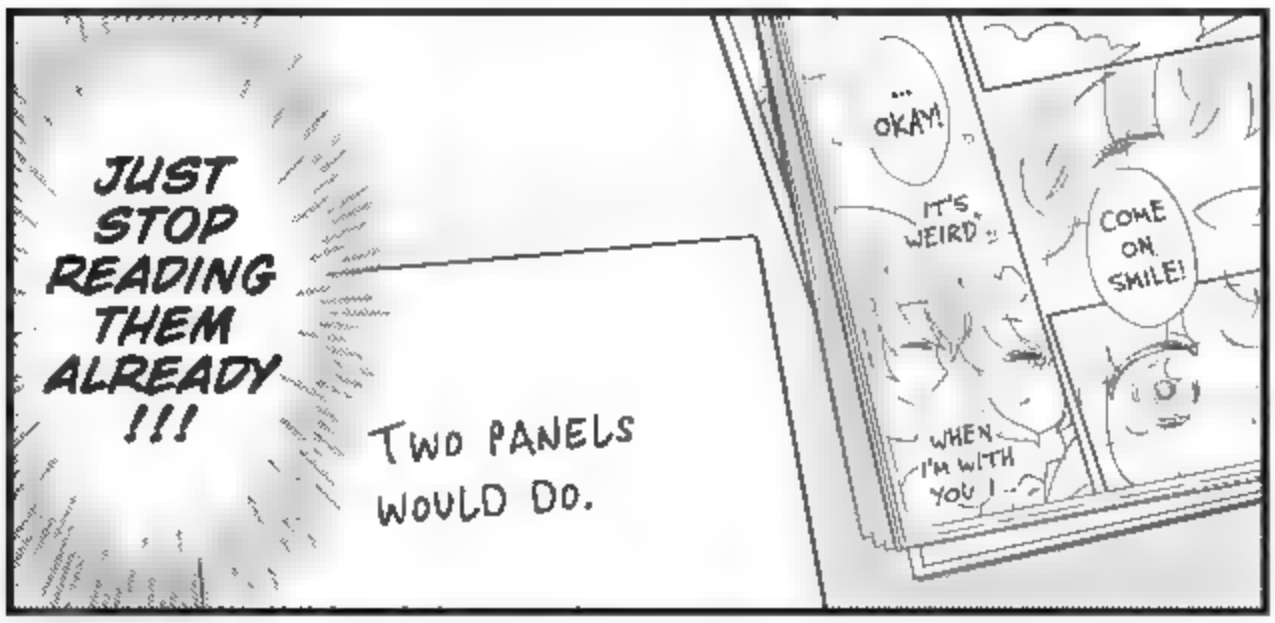
I've been left all alone in the office. It's lonely here, but there's the oddly gentle moonlight streaming in through the window. I get the feeling that this loneliness is a lot like being in love.

I JUST FEEL LIKE I CAN WRITE REALLY, REALLY WELL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!

YOU KNOW, THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO DO THEIR EMBARRASSING DRAFTS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT...
‹ DRAW IT WITH THE ENERGY ‹ GET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!
THEN IF I READ SOME DRAFTS RIGHT NOW...
...MAYBE I CAN COME UP WITH DIFFERENT ADVICE THAN I USUALLY DO!

THERE ARE TOO MANY FOREIGN NAMES. I CAN'T REMEMBER THEM ALL.
FOR CHRISTOPHER SAMA!!
...HAROLD LUCONACH!
LUCIFER !!!


IT'S HARD TO READ WHEN THERE ARE LOTS OF PANELS, SO I THINK ABOUT FOUR PANELS PER PAGE IS BEST.
I AM HER FIANCÉ


JUST STOP READING THEM ALREADY !!!
TWO PANELS WOULD DO.
...OKAY!
IT'S WEIRD...
COME ON SMILE!
WHEN I'M WITH YOU!

WAIT. LET ME CHECK IN WITH OOTSUKI-SAN FIRST.
IF IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ALMOST DONE, I'LL GO GET IT.
FOOD, FOOD!
I'M HUN-GRY!
MIYAMAE-KUN, LET'S GO GET SOME-THING TO EAT!
I'm so sorry! Three more pages... Just three more pages, and I'll be done ...!!!
OH, OKAY. JUST GIVE ME A CALL ONCE YOU'RE THERE.
Are you mad!? You're mad, aren't you!?
WAAAH!
I'm sorry. I'm really sorry!
...IT'S ONLY AT TIMES LIKE THIS THAT I'M JEALOUS OF HIS PEOPLE SKILLS...
SOMEWHERE THAT'S OPEN ALL NIGHT LONG...
HMM, HMM!
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry!
I'M NOT ACTUALLY ANGRY, SO WHY IS SHE SO TERRIFIED ...?
DON'T GIVE ME BACK TO MAENO-SAN!!!
WAAAH!
SO! PLEASE!!!

JUST GO TO BED

WELL, YOU'D LEAVE RIGHT AWAY...

...SAYING YOU HAD A DATE THE NEXT DAY...

WE STAYED LATE WORKING ON STUFF FOR THEM TOO, RIGHT ...?

YOU KNOW, DOING THIS...

...REMINDS ME OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL CULTURE FESTIVALS.

WELL, YOU WERE IN THE GIRLS' ROOM THE ENTIRE TIME.

.....

YOU NEVER CAME BACK, SO WE GOT YELLED AT.

WE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT TALKING, DIDN'T WE ...?

OUR SCHOOL TRIP WAS REALLY FUN TOO.

I'LL DEFINITELY STICK WITH YOU TO THE VERY END THIS TIME!!! IT'S OKAY !!

YOU CAN TRUST ME!!

JUST GO TO BED ALREADY !!!

SHUT UP!

YOU SLEEPING BAG BASTARD!!

I WON'T GO TO SLEEP!

OKAY! LET'S MAKE SOME NEW MEMORIES RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!!

OO-TSUKI-SAN WAS ACTU-ALLY IN TEARS.

YOU'RE CHANG-ING, AREN'T YOU!!?

NOOOOOOO!!

YOU'RE NOT CHANG-ING MY EDITOR, ARE YOU ...!?

MAENO DID, IN FACT, STICK WITH ME TILL THE END.

I'M JUST GONNA HAVE TO HAVE THEM STICK TO THEIR DEAD-LINES...

I DON'T WANT TO STAY OVER ANYMORE...

HMM?

CALL ME NEXT TIME YOU HAVE TO STAY OVER-NIGHT, OKAY!?

AHH, THAT TURNED OUT TO BE REALLY FUN!

OH!

!!!

Deadline

HOW IS IT YOU KNOW THE HARD DEAD-LINE ...?

... UH... YU-MENO-SAN?

YUMENO-SAN...

BESIDES, I WAS JUST IMAGINING WHAT DAY IT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE...!!

AWA

I WROTE IT DOWN JUST IN CASE. I'M NOT REALLY PLANNING ON MISSING MY DEAD-LINE!

AWA (PANIC)

KEN-SAN'S GETTING ATTACHED !!!

WHAAAT!?

!!!

...I'LL BE WAITING RIGHT HERE FOR YOU.

WHEN THAT TIME COMES ...

A NEW DAILY HABIT

HUH?

YOU HAVE TO DO THAT MUCH OVERTIME ...?

THAT MUST BE ROUGH.

...I'VE EVEN BEEN ABLE TO SLEEP UNDER MY DESK!

...BUT LATELY ...

...SO, THAT HAP-PENED.

AT FIRST, I WAS REALLY AGAINST SLEEPING THERE...

.....

SUUU (ZZZ)

SUUU

DON'T NAP!!!

[ISSUE 7.0]

HEY, WE'RE GONNA DECIDE WHO'S DOING WHAT IN THE BALL SPORTS TOURNAMENT!
OH, OH!
BASKETBALL FOR ME!!
SOCCER FOR ME!!
WHO'S ON THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MIKOSHIBA?
TABLE TENNIS, I THINK.

WHAAAT? TABLE TENNIS? ISN'T THAT BORING?
BOO! BOO!
TABLE TENNIS IS WHERE ALL THE KIDS FROM THE ARTSY CLUBS END UP!
LET'S PLAY SOCCER!
YOU NO GOOD AT SPORTS, MIKOSHIBA?
IT'S ..... NOT THAT.

IF YOU DO TABLE TENNIS, YOU CAN SLACK OFF!
HEH...
HUH? COME ON, GET A LITTLE MORE MOTIVATED!
OKAY, EVERYONE WHO WANTS TABLE TENNIS, WE'RE DOING ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS!

ROCK! PAPER!
SCISSORS!!!

OH!
DO YOU HAVE YOUR EVENT, MIKORIN?
I'M PLAYING TABLE TENNIS!
TABLE TENNIS, HUH ...?
...

THE PEOPLE WHO TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT ARE ALL SPINELESS WIMPS...
...SAKU-RA.
BY THE WAY, I'M PLAYING SOCCER.

!!!
OH!
HEY! MIKO-SHIBA!
ANOTHER SPOT OPENED UP ON THE TABLE TENNIS TEAM, SO YOU CAN GET IN ON THAT!
BUT MAYBE HE'S RIGHT. MAYBE I DID TAKE THE EASY ROUTE...
HE LOOKED AT ME WITH SUCH A COLD EXPRESSION...

OHHH!
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TOGETHER, SAKURA! LET'S BOTH DO OUR BEST!!
WHAT'S WRONG, SAKURA? OH?
YOU LOOK TOTALLY SPOOKED !!
SMILE, SMILE!
BASHI
ばレ
BASHI (SMACK)
ばレ

NEVER MIND THAT...DO YOU THINK NOZAKI-KUN CHOSE BASKET-BALL...?

SOWA そわ

SOWA (NERVOUS) そわ

WELL ... ...HE WAS ON THE TEAM...

SOWA そわ

...BUT WHY? YOU WANNA WATCH HIM PLAY?

NO, THE OPPO-SITE!!!

KI (GLARE)

IF HE PLAYS BASKET-BALL...

...HE'S GOING TO GET POPULAR, SO I DON'T WANT HIM TO!!!

HUH...?

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT?

IT WAS ABSOLUTELY INSANE LAST YEAR!!! HE GOT SUPER-POPULAR IN JUST ONE DAY!!!

WOW...HE'S REALLY GOOD...!

AND HE'S TALL AND COOL TOO! ♥

SERI-OUS-LY!!?

WOW, NOZAKI !!!

BUT IT ALL WORE OFF TWO WEEKS LATER !!!

HE'S JUST TALL. THAT'S ALL...

AND THAT PERSONALITY...

WOW, NOZA-KI!!!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!!?

BUT DON'T YOU USUALLY LIKE IT WHEN THE GUY YOU LIKE IS REALLY POPULAR?
OHHH?
GATA
OH, WOW... ♡ THAT SENPAI IS AMAZING...! ♡
AND THERE ARE FIRST-YEARS THIS YEAR TOO, SO IT'S REALLY TERRIFY-ING...
GATA (TREMBLE)

NOZAKI-KUN'S NOT LIKE SUZUKI-KUN!!!
I'M REALLY POPULAR! ♡
YOU KNOW, LIKE SUZUKI IS THE HERO OF THE ENTIRE SCHOOL ...?

BUT THAT'S JUST THE GUY BY THE DOOR WHO'S THERE TO CALL OUT TO HIM!!!
YOU'RE REALLY OKAY WITH THAT!?
SOME ONE TO SEE YOU!
HEY!
SUZUKI!
HE'S LIKE THIS CHAR-ACTER RIGHT HERE!!!

WH—
WHICH ONE !!?
YOU SHOULD ALL...
IT'S ALMOST SUMMER BREAK.
..THE MORNING MEETING
I WANT HIM TO BE MORE LIKE THIS!!!

BOOK: LET'S FALL IN LOVE♡

THE TOURNA-MENT?

OH.

I ENDED UP WITH BASKET-BALL.

BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO, SINCE I COULD SPRAIN A FINGER.

OH...

?

I WONDER WHY.

...WHEN I SAID THAT, SHE MADE THIS REALLY STRANGE FACE...

SHE'S FROM CLASS A, SO SHE DOESN'T WANT YOU PLAYING BASKET-BALL?

MAYBE IT'S, YOU KNOW?

YOU DO HAVE EXPERIENCE, AFTER-ALL.

OH, SO SAKURA AND I ARE RIVALS THIS TIME, HUH...?

HEY, ARE YOU GOING TO PLAY IN THE BOYS' GAME, KASHIMA-KUN?

HMMM.

I'M NOT SURE THIS YEAR.

OH...

I WILL IF THEY'RE MISSING ANYONE THOUGH.

OH WELL. IT'S JUST ONE GAME.

IF YOU GO UP AGAINST NOZAKI-KUN...

...CRUSH HIM TO A PULP SO HE CAN'T POSSIBLY MAKE A COME-BACK, OKAY?

SHE ISN'T MESSING AROUND !!!

I FIGURE YOU CAN PROBABLY HANDLE YOURSELF NO MATTER WHO YOU'RE UP AGAINST...

I DEFINITELY WANT YOU TO TAKE AWAY ALL HIS OPPORTUNITIES TO SHINE.

COME ON!

OH? NOZAKI-KUN WILL GET POPULAR, SO YOU WANT ME TO STOP HIM?

YEAH.

IN THE BASKET-BALL GAME LAST YEAR...

THERE'S SOMEONE LIKE THAT!?

HUH!?

YEAH, BUT...

...I HAVE SOMEONE I JUST CAN'T HANDLE MYSELF AGAINST TOO, YOU KNOW.

PASS!!!

KASHIMA!

ARF!

ROVER!

THAT'S... SO WEIRD...

OH...

BEFORE I KNEW IT, THE BALL WAS HEADED FOR THE OPPOSING TEAM.

I KNEW IT WAS WRONG, BUT I WAS POWER-LESS...

NO.
NOT REALLY ...
YOU'RE PLAYING BASKETBALL, RIGHT?
YOU'RE GONNA BE POPULAR TOO, AREN'T YOU, WAKA-MATSU-KUN?
HMPH!

HEY.
DON'T JUST STARE AT ME LIKE THAT, WAKA!
IT'S CHEATING FOR PEOPLE ON THE TEAM TO PLAY BASKETBALL, ISN'T IT?
HMPH!

OH. I SEE...
WHAAT!!?
JEALOUS!!?
SHE'S JEALOUS.
?
WHY...?
...SEO-SENPAI ...
...SEEMS TO BE IN A REALLY BAD MOOD...

ISN'T THAT ALL HER OWN FAULT?
WE'LL LOSE BECAUSE OF FOULS!!
HUH!? ABSO-LUTELY NOT!!!
SO SHE ENDED UP WITH TABLE TENNIS
SEE, SHE REALLY WANTED TO PLAY BASKET-BALL, BUT...

I'LL COME ROOT FOR YOU TOO!

THAT'S EVEN WORSE!

HUH?

NO WAY.

... WAKA! THAT'S HOW IT IS, SO CHEER FOR ME WHEN THE TIME COMES...

PIKU (TWITCH) ぴく

CHEER HIM ON...

MAYBE I'LL GO TOO...

YOU'RE GOING TO CHEER NOZAKI-SENPAI ON, AREN'T YOU, SAKURA-SENPAI?

HUH!? DO THOSE TWO NOT GET ALONG WELL OR SOME-THING!?

OR HE'LL STAND OUT!!!

NO WAY! I WANT HIM TO LOSE!!

WHICH IS IT!!?

I CAN'T WAIT!!!

BUT I'M GOING TO DISGUISE MYSELF AND GO WATCH!!

SHE'S SURPRISINGLY PETTY...

...ISN'T SHE?

PUSH! (PSSHT)

...AND SO...

...I GUESS SHE WANTS TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT NOZAKI ENDING UP POPULAR.

LAST YEAR?

...HOW DID NOZAKI'S GAME GO LAST YEAR?

I DIDN'T GET TO SEE IT.

SO ...

HE'S SUCH AN ADULT...

DAMMIT! SHE'S ALWAYS SO DAMNED POPULAR..

OR..

KASHIMA BELONGS TO US, THE DRAMA CLUB!

HE REALLY ISN'T JEALOUS OF KASHIMA, IS HE ...?

ET CETERA..

COMING FROM BEHIND TO SHOOT!!!

GOT IT!!

I'LL GET THIS PENALTY KICK!

LAST YEAR...

I THINK YOUR FIELD OF VISION IS PRETTY NARROW, HORI-SENPAI.

...KASHIMA'S BUT COME-FROM-BEHIND SHOT WAS WHAT REALLY GOT ME WORKED UP...

THAT'S WEIRD...

HUH...? NOZAKI'S GAME...? I KNOW I SAW IT...

BUT REALLY, HAVING SAKURA TREAT ME AS THE ENEMY IS JUST SO...

SCHOOL EVENTS ARE FRIGHTENING...

OH! NO-ZAKI!

... YOU DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY BASKET-BALL, SO WE SWITCHED YOU TO TABLE TENNIS. ISN'T THAT GREAT?

TABLE TENNIS ...!!?

THIS IS BAD...!!! SAKURA'S PLAYING TABLE TENNIS ...!!!

SHU

CRUSH HIM TO A PULP...

SHU (FWISH)

SHE'S ALREADY TOO RILED UP!

IF I PICK THE SAME EVENT AS HER ...!!!

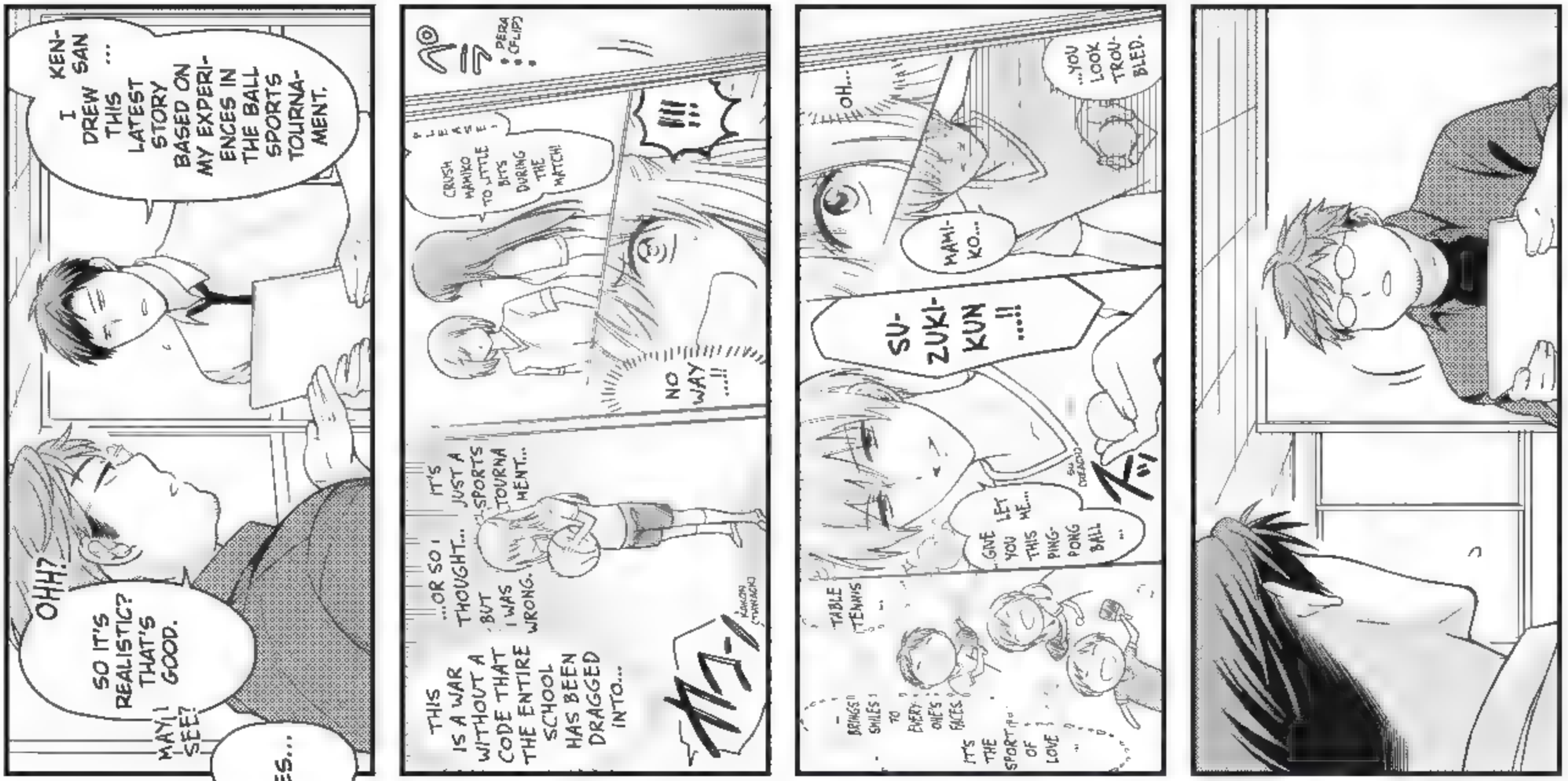
GO FOR IT, NO-ZAKI-KUN !!!

DO IT!

GO FOR IT!

!!?

A BEWILDERING EXPERIENCE


...YOU LOOK TROUBLED.
OH...
MAMIKO...
SUZUKI-KUN...!!
IT'S THE SPORT OF LOVE
TABLE TENNIS BRINGS SMILES TO EVERY ONE'S FACES
GIVE YOU THIS PING-PONG BALL...
SU-DEKAKO
KEN-SAN... I DREW THIS LATEST STORY BASED ON MY EXPERIENCES IN THE BALL SPORTS TOURNAMENT.
MAY I SEE?
OHH?
SO IT'S REALISTIC? THAT'S GOOD.
YES...
PERA (FLIP)
PLEASE! CRUSH MAMIKO TO LITTLE BITS DURING THE MATCH!
!!!
NO WAY...!!
...OR SO I THOUGHT... BUT I WAS WRONG.
IT'S JUST A SPORTS TOURNAMENT...
THIS IS A WAR WITHOUT A CODE THAT THE ENTIRE SCHOOL HAS BEEN DRAGGED INTO...
KAKIGORI CHAMPION

MONTHLY GIRLS' NOZAKI-KUN 7

Izumi Tsubaki

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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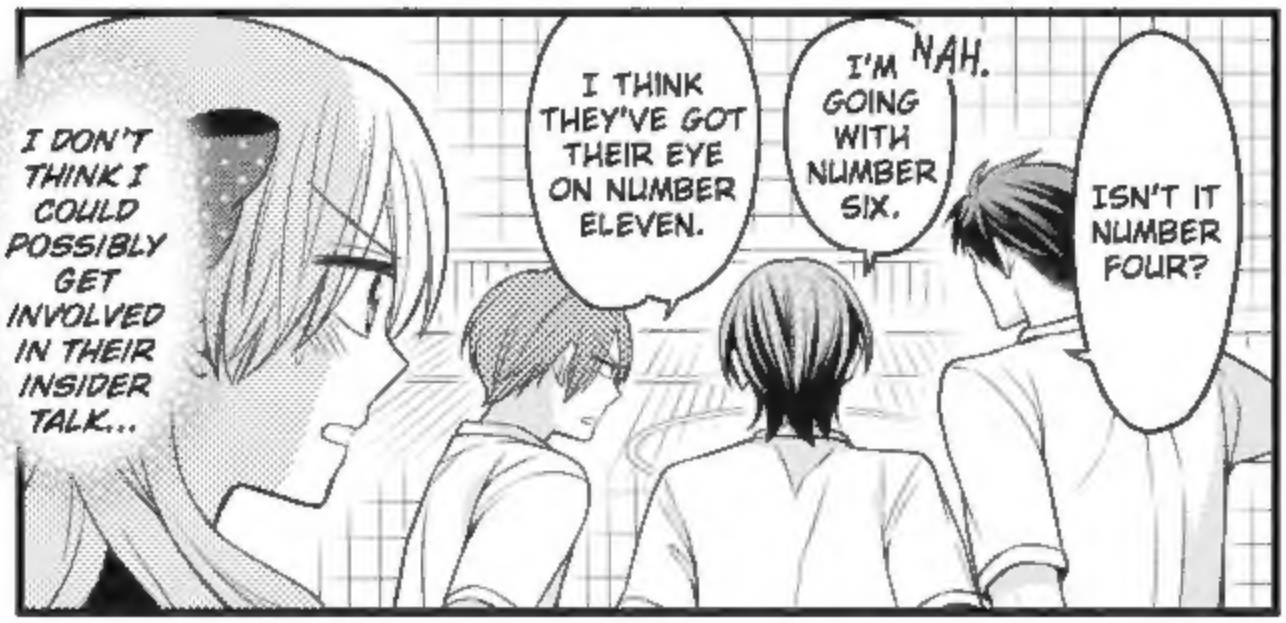
NOZA...
OH!
NOZAKI-KUN!
MY MATCH HASN'T STARTED YET, SO I MIGHT AS WELL GO CHEER SOME-ONE ON.

AS A FORMER BASKET-BALL PLAYER, HE'S WORRIED ABOUT THE GAME, ISN'T HE ...!!?
OH ...
HE...
...LOOKS REALLY SERIOUS ...!!!
ACK!


I DON'T THINK I COULD POSSIBLY GET INVOLVED IN THEIR INSIDER TALK...
I THINK THEY'VE GOT THEIR EYE ON NUMBER ELEVEN.
I'M GOING WITH NUMBER SIX.
NAH.
ISN'T IT NUMBER FOUR?

WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT !?
HE'S HAND-SOME.
SHE'S SO GOING FOR NUMBER FOUR.
REALLY, JUST LOOK.

HUH?
SAKU-RA?
YOU HERE TO CHEER?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ...
...NOZAKI-KUN...?
GALLERY WATCHING.

WE'RE ALL TAKING GUESSES ON WHO THAT GIRL'S ROOTING FOR.
I THINK SHE'S GOING FOR NUMBER FOUR...
AT LEAST WATCH THE PEOPLE ACTUALLY PLAYING SPORTS!

HUH?
SOMEONE ELSE CAME.
OH!
ISN'T THAT KITAYAMA'S EX?
THEN SHE WAS ROOTING FOR NUMBER ELEVEN... WHOA!
SHE GRABBED HER!!!

G— GO FOR IT!
DON'T LOSE!!
GO FOR IT!
GO FOR IT!!!
WHOOOOOOOA!